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# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FOREST, AND THE LAKE

## NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURE

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**High-Grade Maple Syrup.**  
There are about as many grades of maple syrup made as there are of butter. As with butter, so with maple syrup, there is just one right way to make it.

We aim to be ready and when the first warm days come we take the trees. We bore three-quarters inches deep with a half-inch bit. We use metal spouts, galvanized-iron buckets and wood covers made from hemlock.

We gather the sap and pour it into a galvanized iron tank, holding two barrels, head or top of which contains a coarse strainer, and is funnel shaped. Our sugar house, 30x20 feet, is at the base of a little hill. To the top of this hill we draw the load of sap. With a short bit of two-inch rubber hose we conduct the sap into a twenty foot cylindrical tin spout, which leads to a ten-barrel galvanized-iron storage tank, inside the house but above the evaporator. As it enters this tank it is again strained through a fine cloth. We use a modern evaporator with iron arch. Into this the sap flows by gravity, the depth in the pans being regulated by a float attached to the first or forward pan. There are four pans on the arch, the sap being carried back from pan to pan by siphons. By this means the sap is always at the same depth in all the pans. As it flows back from pan to pan, it gets thicker all the time. About four times a day we draw off the finished syrup from the back pan. The hot syrup is poured into large jars, and allowed to settle twenty-four hours. It is then carefully poured into other jars, except a little sediment at the bottom. The next day it is poured again, stopping just before the sediment still remaining commences to run.

It is now ready to sell or seal up. It weighs eleven pounds to the gallon, and is almost clear. "I've bought syrup of a good many people, but yours is the only syrup we ever had that left no sediment at bottom of cans," said a customer to me one day.

As will be observed, all our utensils are metal, except bucket covers, and they do not, of course, touch the sap. The only time we handle the sap is while gathering. All the rest is done by gravity and the siphons. A gill of rain water will spoil a bucket of sap. By spilling I don't mean that the resulting syrup will not be sweet, but that that delicate maple flavor will be lacking. Now as it rains frequently in "sugar" weather, bucket covers are indispensable. One year there wasn't a single "run" without a rain.

Summed up there are just two requisites essential to the making of a perfect product. They are cleanliness and rapid evaporation. With pans, tanks, buckets, spouts and covers clean as soap, water and elbow grease will make them, the sap is clear (clean) as the moment it drops from the tree. The longer it takes to reach the syrup, the poorer the product, hence we "syrup off" often. I have made syrup ranging all the way from almost as black as tar to almost as light and clear as syrup made from melting "A" sugar. The darker product was made up of sap, colored by long boiling (twelve to eighteen hours), rain water, twigs, moss, leaves, dust and soot, boiled in large iron kettles (a piece of fat pork in each one to keep from boiling over), caught in old wooden buckets or troughs, and hauled in and stored in barrels till boiled (which was sometimes the next day), and "settled" with eggs or milk. I once heard a maker of the dark kind say that a lighter product was adulterated.

As for selling, well, we get \$1 a gallon in our little village a mile from our camp, and can't supply the demand. We use one-gallon, flat-sided tins for delivery, which are returned to us. Some people, in order to get more for their money, want the syrup thick. This is a mistake, as, when it weighs more than eleven pounds to the gallon, it loses that peculiar maple flavor which distinguishes it from other sweets.—Prize Essay.

**Northern Vermont Farm Notes.**  
For the first time in over three months I am able to report a thaw, the only one, at least, that has amounted to very much in the way of furnishing a water supply. There were about twelve hours of rain, March 7. The snow was settled to quite an extent, and the water supply was greatly helped.

In many instances the water pipes are frozen, and it may be a considerable time before they are all in working order again. There will probably now be no further scarcity of water, which will be a great relief to farmers, and many others as well.

The rain was necessary to secure suitable conditions for the flow of sap, and more probably for the need for the same purpose. Before this reaches the reader sugar-making will probably be in full operation. The snow has thawed enough so that

farmers can more readily get around upon the land, and the manure is being drawn and put where wanted, so far as possible, in order to save additional work later on, when there is much to be done.

The supply of milk is increasing and more butter is being made, but prices have been a little higher for a few weeks past. With more favorable weather through the country and a better railroad service in consequence, prices will doubtless recede to some extent as the supply and demand become more equalized. It is a matter for congratulation that the butter in cold storage is so much disposed of. That will create a better condition of things all around as the newly made product comes more freely into the market.

On account of the great scarcity of farm help and exorbitant prices demanded, some farmers are disposing of a number of their cows. If such action becomes very general, as it is quite likely to, it must have its effect on the supply of butter and cheese made. Where this is being done, if care is exercised to dispose of the less productive cows and keep only the best, it may result so much in considerably improving the dairies of the country. If cows are not kept to the same extent that they have been, then it is likely that other stock will be substituted to a certain extent of the kinds that will not require so much attention and care as milk cows, making a more diversified farming.

Such a system may be one of the results of a scarcity of help; following these methods and producing the crops that can be the most easily and cheaply grown and secured by the aid of proper implements and machines.

"Necessity is the mother of invention" is an old saying, and in some ways it may perhaps be put to a good account at this time. It will be well enough to try it at any rate, make the most of present conditions and work steadily away instead of waiting for those that are better.

Franklin County, Vt. E. R. TOWLE.

**Rhode Island Jettings.**

An act has been presented in the legislature, and is now before a committee of the Senate, to appropriate \$4000 for the use of the agricultural college at Kingston to supply a fund for student labor and to support instruction in spraying and on certain agricultural subjects in different parts of the State.

The appropriation favored by the Secretary of Agriculture is also in the hands of a committee. This is for \$20,000 for a cattle tuberculosis fund.

The House has passed a resolution favoring the Brownlow good roads bill now pending in Congress, and the resolution is before a committee and will probably be passed in concurrence.

All Providence and the eastern and southern parts of Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts are stirred up over the act now before the Rhode Island legislature to allow the steam railroad company to build a tunnel through the hill on the easterly side of the Providence river to run trains direct from Boston and the other sections mentioned without transfer across the city. The traffic has to stop now a mile from the business center, and street cars have to be used for the trip across the city. The tunnel will afford means of running direct to the Union station, and will afford another route between this city and Boston. The concern, which will be the nominal proprietor of the tunnel, will be the Providence Terminal Company, although it is being pushed by the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company, which will be the real beneficiary. W. E. STONE.

Providence County, R. I.

**Robbed by the Birds.**

For over thirty years the writer has been experimenting with a view of improving our native American grapes, and has succeeded beyond expectations. But for the last three years the robins have utterly ruined the entire crop of new and most valuable hybrid grapes. Last year was an exceptionally bad year for grapes, but I would have had a few good specimens had not the robins destroyed them before they were ripe.

These grapes are of much greater value to me than they would be if they were common varieties grown for home consumption or market. The great value of many of these grapes is in their seeds, that are the result of many combinations produced by crosses and hybridizations upon which years of time have been spent. The robins come down upon my experimental grounds by hundreds as soon as it is light enough for them to see whether there are any cats among the vines, and only leave them when it is too late to see the grapes or a cat.

I have grown a few cherries, but never get any to eat; the robins take them all before they are ripe. I have always been a friend to the birds and have allowed them to take the cherries, but I must draw the line on my grapes that have cost me so much, and ask if the robin is worth the cost of keeping on such feed as he insists upon, when it is considered that his help to the farmer and gardener has probably been greatly overestimated. He does, of course, destroy some insects, both useful and injurious ones, but if he did not destroy any it might be just as well.

His bill of fare is mainly earth-worms and fruit. The value of the earth-worm is not generally understood. Darwin, who made a careful study of the earth-worm in its relation to the soil, estimated that the average earth-worm passes through its body about twenty ounces of soil per year, and that there are on an average twenty-five thousand worms per acre, or one for each two square feet, making a little more than fifteen tons of soil and humus brought up from underneath and deposited on the sur-

face of every acre of land annually. This is heavier manuring than is done by the average farmer. He also states that they cover the surface of the earth at the rate of three inches in fifteen years. I quote also from Green's Fruit Grower. "There are few people who appreciate the importance of this humble creature. How utterly insignificant seems to the thoughtless the life of the worm which is spent in a dark chamber of the earth. But were it not for the angle-worm, the earth would not be able to feed its present large population. These worms are active and industrious, perhaps the most industrious of all creatures. They are constantly burrowing through the soil, swallowing and digesting the soil and many of the roots, etc., which it contains, thus transforming crude and hard soil into fertile and friable earth capable of producing large crops. Their burrows permit the air to enter the soil which is helpful to planters. They sometimes burrow to the depth of six feet." It is wonderful that they are capable of digesting the sticks and stems that they drag into the ground. Should the robin be allowed to interfere with their marvelous work?

As to the robins destroying many out-worms, I think the quantity is over estimated. The cut-worm does not come out until after dark and goes back into the

This is another instance of the fact heretofore observed in connection with nearly all of the plants which failed to thrive well upon the unlimed plot receiving sulphate of ammonia, viz., that in all such instances, in comparing the two limed plots, the one which received nitrate of soda is invariably found to give a greater yield than the one which received sulphate of ammonia.

In the case of cranberries, on the other hand, the weights of the vines were in very complete accord with the field observations made in 1900 and 1901 to the effect that lime was highly injurious to the plants, the best growth of all occurring upon the unlimed plot which received sulphate of ammonia and which was in such an acid condition that beets, spinach, lettuce, asparagus, muskmelons and certain other plants absolutely failed to live. Indications are therefore afforded to the effect that, so far as concerns upland soils, an acid one is very much to be preferred for cranberries, to one upon which either lime or wood ashes has been applied.

Lima beans are another crop which will grow well in a sour soil. But lettuce, spinach, beets, onions, asparagus, cantaloupe, squash, do much better where the soil contains little acid or has been limed. Currants and rhubarb, although sour, show good results from use of lime.

ment and to supply such educative features as the following:

In the stock department they purpose employing expert judges—usually college-trained men, to do the judging, and then to give their reasons for their awards. In this way the farmer will gain a definite idea of the type requirements of the market, and will be enabled to do much better work from having a definite ideal. Besides, by employing expert judges, the fair authorities will remove the tendency to give the prize for the man's name rather than for the merits of the animal. In the horticultural department they aim to do away with the barriers that keep people from feeling and handling the fruit, and instead of the attendant policeman, to supply expert judges, who shall stay in the department and explain all reasons for awards and answer any other questions pertaining to local fruit growing. In this way the farmers will gain a better idea of the varieties best adapted for their localities.

The society aims, too, at having the local organizations plant experimental plots of grains, grass, corn, etc., on the fair grounds; and on the days of the fair to have men who have studied this department of agriculture present to point out the merits and requirements of the several varieties. In this way very practicable knowledge of the varieties of grains, grasses and vegetables best adapted to the locality can be brought to the farmer.

It is the purpose further, to advocate that a Ladies' Department, either in the form of a building or tent, be placed on the fair grounds, wherein the ladies may hold conventions and receive practical knowledge and suggestions in domestic affairs from those who have made a special study of Domestic Science.

Thus it is the aim to do away with the antiquated, vulgar amusements and fairs by substituting the above improvements, which will prove interesting and educative. Guelph, Ont. H. G. BELL.

**Among the Farmers.**

There is a great Grange revival in our State.—M. E. Lee, New Plymouth, O.

If farmers would raise more yellow corn and oats, grinding the corn with the cob, and grinding the oats and mixing the two, it would be far better. Turnips, beets and carrots can also be fed to good advantage. Farmers are sending too much money out of the State for feed for their stock. If they would put the money into their farming that they now use for feed stuffs, they would know what they were feeding, and I believe the cattle would be in a more healthy condition.—W. E. Overlook, Knox County, Me.

The farmers are the people who keep the grass from growing in the streets of our large cities and the rust from accumulating on the railroad tracks. There is no more honorable, as well as happier, occupation than that of the farmer. To own a farm and till it, is, indeed, something a man can be proud of. Every occupation has its advantages and disadvantages, but I feel as though there were some advantages connected with the occupation of farming which many of our good young men fail to notice.—A. B. Stauffer, Freemansburg, Pa.

Several instances have come under my observation where breeders, in trying to overcome some defect in their birds, would get something else as bad, if not worse. I have come to believe that the best way to get a strain of birds that will throw a large percent of good birds is in line breeding. But I also think that a breeder must thoroughly understand his business in order to be successful in line breeding, and would caution the amateur breeders to be careful along that line, or he will lose the vitality of his birds.—J. Y. Patton, New Castle, Pa.

Farmers of the State are becoming conscious of certain facts that should come their way; and why not, if much of the stability and prosperity of the nation depend upon them.—W. W. Higbee, Charlotte, Vt.

**Notes from Washington, D. C.**

Representative Brooks of Colorado has introduced a bill for the purpose of taking the census of the live stock of the country. It provides for a tax of a mill on each head of cattle, horses, mules and asses, one-fourth of a mill on each head of sheep and goats and one-half of a mill on each hog in the country. The tax is to be collected through a system of stamps, similar to the internal revenue method. The idea of a tax, therefore, is simply to provide funds for gathering and compiling annually livestock information.

Is there such a thing as a man having too much agricultural knowledge? Possibly there is, especially if that man is not a farmer. I have in mind the genial assistant chief, or more properly assistant editor of the Agricultural Department's Division of Publications, Joseph A. Arnold, who has charge of the review and editing of the entire output of bulletins and circulars of the department, averaging something over one a day.

"I do not believe," said Mr. Arnold, the while finger the page proofs of a bulletin on farm experiments, which I later corrected for the benefit of the readers of the PLOUGHMAN, "that the majority of the farmers of the country appreciate how really good and useful some of the publications of the department are. These farm bulletins are sent to farmers upon request, free of charge, and probably because such a mass of uninteresting documents is printed by the different Government departments, farmers doubtless think that these bulletins and booklets on farm crops, farm animals and farm procedure are not worth studying or following. A knowledge of the facts would convince any man of an inquiring turn that this department affords every farmer a free library, and issued in convenient form for

carrying around in his pocket for reading at odd moments, which would cost him in the open market many dollars. The department has specialists of its own on most subjects, men who are trained and have given their lives to the study of their particular branches. If any agricultural subject comes to the fore upon which the agents of the department themselves are not entirely conversant, the secretary contracts with some acknowledged authority for a special report or article on the subject, in order to place the results of this man's knowledge and experience before the American farm public. It is true that we issue a vast number of bulletins and farm pamphlets, and we are always more than glad to send out anything we have when we believe it is appreciated; nevertheless, it is probable that there are hundreds of thousands of farmers, who, if they knew more of the excellence of some of these farm bulletins, would do much to secure copies of them."

A German test noted by the Department of Agriculture shows that transplanting carrots apparently interferes with the growth of the tap root and induces abnormal forms, such as occur here and there from hoeing or cultivating. While they are irregular in shape, the transplanted roots are usually larger.

All of the seed catalogues contain several pages of alluring novelties. These are in each case described as new strains and varieties discovered and bred up under peculiar conditions so that they are far and away ahead of anything else of the kind for earliness, size, flavor, etc. The farmer who might be figuring on doing a little extra gardening with a view of supplying the village might get the impression from reading of these novelties that all he would have to do would be to get a sufficient supply of certain of these extra early things, and if his neighbors didn't happen to see the wonderful discovery made by the seed house running the Springfield Farm, he would have a scoop on the community with these wonderful varieties which would enable him to sell everything he could raise at fancy prices. Proceeding on such a theory would certainly bring disappointment. The novelty pages are in the catalogue every year, and it is well enough to let them alone or patronize them sparingly.

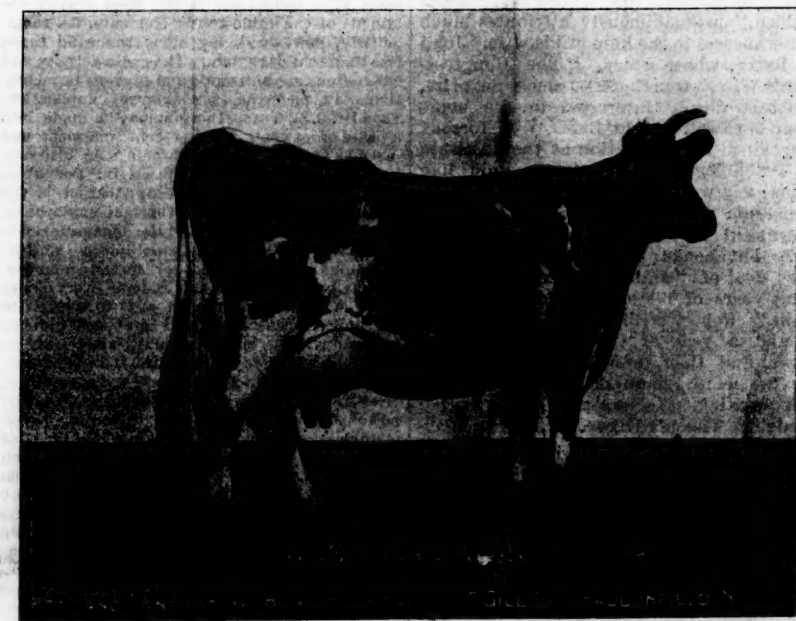
During the early years of the Republic patents were granted at the rate of seven or eight a year, and in Washington's first term when patent applications were presented to the Government, they were passed upon by the President and his Cabinet in regular Cabinet meetings. Later a patent office was established and a commissioner of patents appointed. The Department of Agriculture sprang from the patent office. When Henry L. Ellsworth was commissioner in 1839 he recommended to Congress an appropriation of \$1000, which was made for the collection of agricultural statistics, investigations for promoting agriculture and rural economy and the procurement of useful cuttings and seeds for gratuitous distribution among farmers. Mr. Ellsworth never dreamed how his free seed idea was to grow and at the same time degenerate into a scheme to help Congressmen get re-elected.

Another farm bulletin which the Department of Agriculture has had to revise and reprint because of a large demand for it, is No. 22, "The Feeding of Farm Animals." This bulletin has gone into the hands of tens of thousands of farmers and has been reprinted by the department seven or eight times.

The department has an illustrated bulletin in press descriptive of the various weeds used in medicine. A glimpse of the advance proofs shows illustrations of such common things as burdock, dandelion, poke weed, mullein, catnip, thistles, jimson weed, etc., and the subject might seem of entire unimportance, but it is a fact that certain of our best known weeds now either generally or locally infesting the country, are the sources of crude drugs which are imported into the country in large quantities. Some of the plants coming within this class are in many States at present subject to anti-weed laws, and farmers are required to take measures toward their extermination. Often when weeds have been dug, the work of handling and curing them is not exhaustive and might even prove a diversion for the little boy on the farm, especially if he were going to make a few pennies out of it. The prices paid for crude drugs from these exclusive sources are not great and would hardly tempt any one to pursue this line of business. The bulletin in question gives considerable information as to the methods of collecting and preparing the weeds which produce these drugs. Primarily the leaves or roots must be thoroughly dried, otherwise they will mould in transit and be rejected by the drug dealer to the discouragement of the collector. The description of the various weeds from which these drugs can be obtained comprises the several local names, their localities and habits of growth and the usefulness of the drug derived; also the imports of the drug to the United States and the average price.

Consul Guenther sends in a Government report on the extent of the perfume industry in the city of Grasse, Germany. Over two million and a half pounds of roses are used and over half a million pounds of orange flowers annually. The so-called oil of roses is manufactured from a grass, and the oil of geranium is produced from a flower in no way resembling that plant. It might be assumed that new mown hay extract would be the principal perfume product of that city. GUY E. MITCHELL.

Three thousand camels are reported to have been captured by the British in Somaliland. Just think how many camels that would supply.



A GRAND GUERNSEY COW.  
Record 593.5 lbs. butter in a Year.

ground before it is light enough for the robins to see him. I would rather have a dozen toads in my garden to destroy the out-worms than all the robins in the country. They work at night the same as the cut-worm, and no harm was ever charged to them.

For more than twenty years I had a family of skunks that burrowed under a stone wall back of my henhouse, and I found them the best insect destroyers. They will eat potato bugs and grow fat on them, and if there are any white grubs in the garden or grass-ground, they are sure to find them. Of course they are fond of poultry, but it is easier to keep them from the hens than it is to keep the robins from my grapes. And I am of the opinion that it would be better to dispose of the robber robin and domesticate the skunk, remove their objectionable means of defence while young, and they would become a beautiful pet and a valuable helper in the garden and field.

Fruit growers in New Jersey are especially stirred up over the depredations of the robins. In some places the birds are becoming so numerous that they threaten to drive fruit growers out of business. N. B. WHITE.

Norfolk County, Mass.

**Opposite Effects of Lime.**

While the growth of most plants is checked if grown in sour soil, there are some crops naturally acid, like the cranberry, which seem to thrive better on soil containing much acid. With such plant the application of lime to offset the acid naturally does more harm than good, proving an exception to the general rule that lime improves a sour soil.

The contrary effects are shown by the tests of the Rhode Island station with asparagus and cranberries. The asparagus plants were set in the spring of 1897. No attempt was made to harvest a crop until the spring of 1899. In the year 1899 six cuttings were made, and a great advantage was derived from liming. The limed plot measured with nitrate of soda produced a much greater yield than the limed one which received sulphate of ammonia. Six cuttings were made in 1900, and the following are the weights of asparagus obtained: Plot No. 23, unlimed, sulphate of ammonia, produced nothing; No. 25, limed, sulphate of ammonia, 5.87 pounds; No. 27, unlimed, nitrate of soda, 1.01 pounds; No. 29, limed, nitrate of soda, 9.62 pounds.

It should be stated that the plants had entirely died upon plot 23, where the soil conditions were such that the asparagus could not exist. Many of them had also died on plot 27, and those which survived the conditions were very feeble. The growth and vigor of the plants upon the limed plot which received nitrate of soda were both very noticeably greater than upon the limed plot which received sulphate of ammonia. The great advantage of the former in comparison with the latter is seen by observing the weights which are given above.

**Slowness in War.**

People wonder why the Russo-Japanese war progresses so slowly, but they forget that Japan has to take the aggressive, and that in order to fight on land her troops must have to travel great distances to meet the foe in Manchuria, where the great contests of the soldierly will take place. The Russians will fall back until they get their foes into a position where they can attack them with every prospect of victory. They will keep as far above the Yalu river as possible.

The Japanese showed no lack of swiftness upon the water, and when they get into the vicinity of Manchuria, on the mainland, they will have no hesitancy in attacking the enemy, if retreating tactics are not constantly followed. The victory will be, probably, with the one that can hold out the longer.

**A Choice Young Holstein.**

Belle Korndyke's Beryl Wayne, the bull whose picture appears herewith, stands at the head of the Manor herd of pure-bred Holstein-Friesian cattle. This herd is comprised of about one hundred head, and is owned by W. H. Grenell, Pierrepont Manor, N. Y. Although Mr. Grenell has a large share of his time taken up as one of the largest growers of peas and beans for the wholesale trade in the United States, he has found time to build up one of the finest herds of pure-bred cattle in the land.

The grand young bull mentioned above is out of Belle Korndyke and sired by that famous bull, Beryl Wayne's Paul DeKol. The record of Belle Korndyke is 25 pounds 12.3 ounces of butter in seven days, official. The combined official records of herself and three daughters average 23 pounds 7 ounces butter in seven days. In this respect she excels any cow of the breed.

Beryl Wayne's Paul DeKol, the sire of this bull, is out of that famous cow, Beryl Wayne, who has an official record of 27 pounds 14 ounces of butter in seven days. He has thirty-nine Advanced Registry sisters, fifteen with records of over twenty-three pounds; thirty-one average over twenty pounds.

**Better Fairs and Exhibitions.**

The Canadian Association of Fall Fairs and Exhibitions, which has been in session on Feb. 17 and 18, in Toronto, has been considering some radical changes which it is going to strive to bring about in Canadian fair management. The fall fairs and exhibitions of Canada have degenerated into mere days of amusement for the farmer. Frequently the side show (very often immoral) and the racing or the chief centres of attraction, and thereby destroy all the educative features of the fair. Horse racing and shows may be all right in their places, but certainly such places are not at centres of exhibitions of farm products. Then, it is the object of the association to advise doing away with all such superfluous entertain-



## Dairy.

## Too Much Storage Butter.

The butter market has remained nearly steady for the past three weeks, and this week's quotations show but slight changes. The weakness in price of storage butter is significant, showing that holders are trying to force sales in order to get out of their investment before the usual heavy spring drop in prices. The stock reported in cold storage in Boston March 12 was 92,778 packages in Quincy Storage Company, against 46,396 packages at this time last year, and twenty-five thousand packages in Eastern Cold Storage Company, against fourteen thousand packages this time last year. The storage houses in New York and vicinity have about ninety thousand tubs and packages and those at Chicago about one hundred thousand. The stock in storage in smaller places is not fully reported, but the impression is that it is unusually large for the season. Some of the holders are carrying the stock on borrowed money and are anxious to turn it into cash as soon as possible. The steadiness of the market gives ground for hope that the storage men will come out all right, but the stock which was put in during the dry spell in the early part of last summer was very expensive to the storers and will show little, if any, profit. The export business is reported very quiet.

to Europe last week, and about two-thirds that quantity is expected to be shipped this week.

The price of fresh and stored creamery ranges from two to three cents below the figures last year at this time. The week at New York opened with rather light arrivals, though a number of the delayed lots got in later, and the market is not quite so bare as last year. There has been call for all the fancy fresh creamery that was available, and prices for such were firmly maintained. The business reported was on the basis of 24 to 24 1/2 cents for fancy quality, the outside figure for the high-scoring lots, a distinct cut from last week's figures. The under grades of fresh show lower prices, but there are plenty of them, and it is difficult to interest buyers at all largely. Storage creamery was quieter. Foreign buyers are less encouraging, and shippers are mostly holding off for the present. Some of the large jobbers bought so heavily last week, and they are not needing in their lots for a while, and the lighter volume of business keeps the market rather easy; only in exceptional cases can 20 cents be exceeded for strictly fancy quality. Exporters could buy a good deal of stock at 16 to 16 1/2 cents, if they had orders for them. The Western packings of imitation creamery are quiet, and there is not very much demand at the moment for fresh factory, but the supply of the latter goods is so light that prices are fairly sustained. Held factory is unsettled; there are larger supplies offering from the West. Renovated is in only moderate jobbing demand, and there is an abundant supply of all grades.

Demand for standard cheese from home trade dealers keeps up in a satisfactory manner, and holders generally take a hopeful view of the situation, with tone steady to firm on desirable grades. Exporters purchased some further lots on Saturday, including one lot of three hundred boxes, large colored, of a better quality and at a higher price than lately paid. Fully three thousand boxes of last week's purchases by exporters of large white and colored have not been shipped as yet. That does not mean, however, looking around, and it is evident that private advice indicates a better feeling on the other side than reflected by the public cables. Skins show little if any change.

Cable advices to George A. Cochrane from the principal markets of Great Britain state that butter markets were very active the first three days of the week, but on Thursday the weather turned extremely mild, and the Copenhagen committee reduced prices of Danish six kroner, and the heavy offerings of butter from all parts of America caused a complete collapse. Buyers withdrew from the market, and quotations of one to three cents have fallen to bring on the demand. The break in American markets and the large number of cablegrams pouring in from every quarter, makes buyers feel they are to have a large arrival of American butter, and the course of the market will depend largely on weather conditions and shipments from America. Finest Danish, 24 to 24 1/2 cents; finest Australian and New Zealand, 20 to 21 1/2 cents; finest Canadian, 19 1/2 to 20 cents; finest Russian, 18 to 20 cents; American creameries ranging from 17 to 18 cents; American process at 17 to 18 cents, and ladies at 15 to 16 cents. These prices are what holders are asking, but in the absence of buyers are purely nominal. Cheese markets early in the week advanced and the demand was large, but at the close of the week has been lost, and buyers are holding off. Finest American and Canadian, 10 1/2 to 11 cents.

The market for fresh creamery is dull for all but the choicest grade. Boxed butter sells pretty well, but at prices only slightly above tub goods. Print is selling a little better than butter. Cheddar and Adair's butter. The butter market shows no particular change since last week, and the general situation is also about the same. The stock in cold storage is still large. Receipts of fresh made are also quite large for the season, and the indications are for lower prices as the spring advances. Reports show prospects of a larger make of butter in all the dairy sections the coming season. Eggs for storage will probably sell at about 17 cents on the average in April. We are paying now 18 cents for Western fresh eggs, but these are graded as storage quality, being less carefully packed.

Receipts at New York for the week were 35,800 packages of butter, 12,100 packages of cheese and 67,000 cases of eggs, against a record for the same week of last year of 33,064 packages of butter, 10,612 packages of cheese and 33,902 cases of eggs.

At Boston receipts for the week were 11,929 tubs, 575 boxes, 59,392 pounds of butter, 3438 boxes of cheese, besides 4440 boxes of cheese for export, and 17,389 cases of eggs. For the corresponding week of last year receipts were 12,919 tubs, 627,805 pounds of butter, 2854 boxes of cheese, besides 5676 boxes of cheese for export, and 7820 cases of eggs.

## To Milk Shippers.

I trust you will see the importance of doing all you can to secure the united effort of the producers in assisting this critical time. I feel that should the contractor win out, it would mean a loss of thousands of dollars and very unsatisfactory conditions to the producers. The very best trade possible was made last fall. The contractors would not pay the price without the limiting clause. The producers refused to hold their milk, so nothing else could be done. Many feel hurt, because they were limited and had to take surplus price for a portion of it; but they were better off, even then, than they would have been to take the old surplus clause. For example: The farmer produced five hundred cans in a month last winter, and he produced six hundred cans this winter under the present trade in the middle zone, he receives 29 cents for five hundred cans, or \$142.50, an average of fifteen cents per can for one hundred cans, netting in all \$157.50 for the six hundred cans. If they had sold it under the surplus system, and the surplus had been 2 1/2 cents per can, as it undoubtedly would have been, they would have received only \$156, making a gain to the present price of \$1.50. Besides, had it not been for the limiting clause, thousands of cans of milk would have been put upon the market that were turned away, which would have injured at least a 2 1/2 percent to all those producers who did not furnish any more milk than they did last winter, besides bringing a less price to those who did, as is clearly shown above.

Producers need not flatter themselves that the surplus would be the same as it was four years ago,—instead of two cents it would surely be between three and four cents.

Now is the time to act and throw all your influence in the right direction. It is foolish to put up the bars after the cows are

out. We want the undivided support of the producers to be successful.

W. A. HUNTER, Sec'y N. E. M. P. A. Worcester.

## Agricultural.

## Hay Trade Active.

Shipments have increased, but demand holds good and prices are fully maintained in most of the markets of the country. At Boston quotations are unchanged, except that sales of clover and some of the lower grades are reported at slight advances. Most dealers report the situation unchanged. Straw is very scarce and selling about \$1 higher in many instances.

In New York arrivals are very large, but prices remain unchanged, except for an advance in all grades of straw. Some dealers think the large arrivals of hay in sight will depress prices. It is said that large shipments will reach Boston and New York from Canada as soon as the back roads in Canada are open for travel. There is certainly a great deal of hay yet unsold and in growers' hands. Its final price will depend largely on the outlook for the next crop. Those who hold on to the crop of considerably lower prices if the next crop promises to be large. Western markets are moderately supplied, and prices firm or a little higher in some cases. Southern markets report fair supply and quiet demand at about steady prices.

## Better Outlook for Poultry.

Reported for this paper by S. L. Burr & Co.: "There is very little change to note in the condition of the market on poultry since our last letter to you. There is a little better feeling on the market for choice fowls, and it looks to us as though this would continue for several weeks. The general impression is that farmers will part with their laying fowls relatively this year on account of the fine record which eggs have made and are likely to make for some time to come. However, it is a good time for farmers to realize on poultry of that kind, providing they feel that they want to part with them. The Jewish holidays which occur next week always have a tendency to increase the demand for live poultry, and we presume that this year will be no exception. In fact, we know of some considerably large lots of live stock being shipped through direct from the West to be placed on the market for this trade."

"We quote you present market: Fowls, 15 cents; fine stock, small inferior stock less; old roosters, 12 to 13 cents; fancy self-meated chickens, something fine, suitable for roasting, from 20 to 25 cents; medium-size chickens, 18 to 20 cents; incubator broilers from 15 to 20 cents. There are practically no turkeys now in New England to come forward, but if there were the season is so late now and they are so large and coarse that they would be very little better than old Western stock as we are handling and selling from 18 to 20 cents."

"We anticipate a more rapid movement of frozen poultry the next two months, and this will practically absorb all the business in poultry, except a limited amount of fresh-killed stock from the West that usually comes forward at this season of the year."

## The Grain Situation.

The wheat market has continued to fluctuate notably, but on a lower level of prices than during last week and the week before. The situation has partly lost its unsettling effect but other disturbing factors are the rather light supply in sight and the reports of damage to the winter crop.

Some of these reports may be guesswork, made up to influence prices, but quite a number of our own correspondents, all disinterested farmers, speak rather doubtfully of the outlook owing to the dry fall and the severe winter. If a real shortage of winter wheat develops the high prices will be justified apart from the war situation.

## Produce Notes and News.

The Boston Fruit and Produce Exchange has enrolled over sixty members since Jan. 1. They now have seven hundred members.

Carefully prepared statistics on the honey crops show that there were produced for the season 1903-1904 in southern California approximately two hundred acres, of fifteen tons each, of extracted and fifteen cases of comb honey. The bulk of this was sold at an average price of about 5 cents a pound for extracted and 11 cents for comb. The honey remains in producers' hands at present about sixty-five cases of extracted and five cases of comb. The San Joaquin valley produced this season about seventy-five cases of extracted, about sixty of which remain on hand. Inyo County produced about six cases of comb honey.

At the present time the imported honey from Cuba and Jamaica seems to have the field for cheap honey, these goods being laid down in New York at 57 to 60 cents per gallon of twelve pounds net, duty paid, equivalent to 44 to 52 cents per pound. The duty is 20 cents per gallon.

A farmer at Randolph, Vt., reports having raised two thousand bushels of salable potatoes of eight acres of worn-out land plowed for the first time in many years.

Advices from the South report that Charleston strawberries will be on hand about the first of the month, and large receipts are expected by the tenth.

The onion market in New York has shown quite an advance the past few weeks, quotations having gone up as high as \$2.50 a barrel for choicest white stock, with yellows at about \$4.25 and reds about \$3.75.

According to the March Government report: "As a whole, reports regarding winter wheat indicate that the condition of this crop is unpromising over much the greater part of the winter wheat belt; the most unfavorable reports being received from the middle and Eastern districts. At the beginning of the month the greater part of the winter wheat area was covered with snow, but only the most northern portions were protected during the greater part of the month."

A report from the Texas trucking district says: "Spring work was never farther advanced at this time of the year than at present. Plowing has generally been completed and the ground is in first-class condition. Last week corn planting was begun in all sections and the work progressed rapidly in the southern part of the State. Gardens have been made and Irish potatoes are being planted. The fruit crop has suffered no damage, and the peach trees are now in bloom. Strawberries are doing well and promise a large yield."

## HOLSTEIN BULL, BERYL WAYNE.

See descriptive article.

bloom. Strawberries are doing well and promise a large yield."

From South Florida, good progress is reported in farming operations. Crops that are up are doing nicely. Some corn was planted and a few fields of early corn received the first workings. Oats continue to do well. Peaches and plum trees are setting considerable fruit, and the outlook is very promising. Citrus bloom is said to be the heaviest in years. Strawberry shipments have increased.

## Literature.

This is the second series of chatty biographical sketches of popular present-day authors which E. F. Harkins has written. Those who are seriously interested in the lives of these writers, who are at present enjoying the applause of the novel-reading public, may glean many interesting facts. We learn, for example, that George Ade, who "humanizes, vitalizes slang," is "a man of the most retiring nature, undervaluing his work and underestimating his ability." Irving Hatcher, the creator of "Eben Holden," magnanimously attributes much of his success to the help of his wife. John D. Barry, whose story, "The Congressman's Wife," won the \$2000 Smart Set prize, has been deeply interested in the stage from boyhood. Arlo Bates, who forsook journalism for a position at the Institute of Technology, says he "never did like journalistic work," and that he always had a passion for "pure literature." Cyrus Townsend Bradshe says he "seems" to turn out books fast because he has a good deal of "untouched experience" and many years of historical reading to draw upon.

Robert William Chambers, "fooled around a year at the Art League," in Paris, and then forsook unprofitable art for the more remunerative occupation of story-writing. He does most of his writing at night. Thomas Dixon, Jr., after a meteoric career as a preacher, during which time "he kept literature in mind," gave us a specimen of his idea of the latter in "The Leopard's Spots," which "simmered in his mind" for more than a year. Finley Peter Dunne, whose "Mr. Dooley" rivaled in interest the Spanish war news a few years ago, is now, we are told, a resident of New York, where he is drawing a princely salary of \$40,000. George Cary Eggleston, for many years lead a "double life"—of journalist and author, which, says Mr. Harkins, "is about as bad as any other kind of double life." We are relieved to learn that Mr. Eggleston has returned and is now writing books, although the biographer adds that on the whole "Mr. Eggleston has done nothing since 1900 that he might not have done thirty years before."

Elliott Flower, author of "Polioeman Flynn," "The Spoilsman," etc., is another ex-newspaper man, who is married and does his literary work in an office in a downtown building in Chicago. John Fox, Jr., one of the few writers of real literature in the book, is a graduate of Harvard College, the Columbia Law School, and at present divides his time between New York and Big Stone Gap. About all we learn concerning Henry Harland is that he is "an American of an American, as he comes from the North (Ct.) Harlands, although he was born in St. Petersburg in '61. Arthur S. Hardy has been army officer, professor, minister to Persia, Greece, Switzerland and Spain. Fourteen years intervened between his romance, "Passage Rose," and "His Daughter First." Jack London, the young Californian genius, has led a roving life during the comparatively few years which have elapsed since boyhood. His experiences before the mast, in the Klondike and in the slums of London, proved most useful to him when he began to exercise his undeniable literary art. George Horace Lorimer, whose only book is "The Letters of a Self-Made Merchant to His Son," is the son of Dr. George C. Lorimer and the present editor of the Saturday Evening Post of Philadelphia. He formerly was one of Armour's heads of departments. Charles Major is an Indiana lawyer who found writing a real pleasure. George Barr McCutcheon, who added to the gaiety of nations with "Graustark," is a former Chicago newspaper man. F. Hopkinson Smith, as everybody knows, is a practical builder of lighthouses, as well as a writer. Booth Tarkington is an Indiana author, who has now returned to Indiana, and Owen Winter, who wrote the "Virginian," is a Philadelphia lawyer. Good portraits adorn the pages of Mr. Harkins' book. (Boston: L. C. Page & Co. Price, \$1.25 net.)

## Popular Science.

The curious theory of M. Boyl is that N-rays keep marine animals in their native habitat. These rays enter salt water readily, but are completely stopped by fresh water, and they have the remarkable property of increasing visual power, other effects being probable. A baker's oven heated by electricity is a novelty at Montauban, France. The heating elements—numbering twenty—are placed at the side of the interior, and heat is quickly applied and cut off at once, with a considerable saving in time. No heat is lost up the chimney, as the only opening is the door through which the bread is passed.

The human body changes its temperature very slightly under any conditions of heat or cold, but a Russian naturalist finds that the body temperature of insects is practically that of the atmosphere. It usually rises more slowly than the air, though more rapidly when the air is very moist. When the insect begins to move, the temperature rises rapidly, and may reach about

38° C. (102.2° F.). Below 0.5° C. insects remain motionless, and the wings are not moved until the temperature reaches about 12° C.

About 720 tons of ore have been used to produce about a fifth of an ounce of radium.

To test the mosquito theory of malaria, two French physicians propose to be bitten by mosquitoes fed on an ague patient, and to allow any fever contracted to run its full course without treatment.

By the phonograph of Prof. A. Graham Bell speech was transmitted for a few hundred yards on a beam of light. The improved apparatus of Ernst Ruhmer of Berlin uses the speaking apparatus as a transmitter instead of a silvered diaphragm, the vibrating reed of a parabolic mirror, and the light is received, as in the older apparatus, by another parabolic reflector having a selenium cell at its focus, the sounds being made audible by a telephone in circuit with this cell. Great sensitiveness is claimed: the new cell as a result of cooling the selenium gradually from about 25° C. The new apparatus can be used for transmitting speech to any distance up to ten miles, and preserves secrecy while being much more rapid than the ordinary heliograph.

Thorium, one of the chief elements in the incandescent mantles of Welsbach gas burners, says Dr. A. G. Tracy, thorium may be made into a paste or a twenty-five per cent. ointment, and used as an antiseptic in chronic skin diseases, particularly those of parasitic origin. For tuberculosis, the best means of application is the apparatus of Hugh Leiber, thorium oxide being heated in a sand bath and the emanations inhaled through a suitable mouthpiece. The inhalations are continued for fifteen minutes, gradually increased to half an hour every day or every other day, and the effect is to deposit in the lungs a fine film, that produces induced radioactivity for one or two days after each inhalation. The lung cells are thus kept constantly in a radio-active and antiseptic condition.

The place of prussic acid as the most deadly poison known must now be given up to di. methylarsine cyanide, better known as cyanide of cadexyl, which was discovered by Bunsen many years ago, but whose properties are being brought to attention by Mr. Lascelles Scott a British chemist. The new substance is a white powder, which melts at 33° C., boils at 140°, and in the air emits a slight vapor. So powerful is the power of causing condensation in a steam jet of people would kill all present, and one-millionth part in the atmosphere of an air-tight cage killed four dogs in succession, death being almost instantaneous.

The idea of ascending lightning is not new, although it is not generally adopted. Insides upon the reality of the phenomenon as witnessed by Prof. P. Bruhl and himself, Prof. W. H. Everett states that the flashes seen were unbranched, that they rose like rockets from clouds into the clear sky, and that their duration was longer than that of ordinary lightning.

Striking analogies between radio-activity and the behavior of ozone have been pointed out by Professor Riechardt and Dr. Schenck, Prussian chemists. Freshly prepared ozone and ozone that has been decomposed by deozoneizers have the power of causing condensation in a steam jet, and impart conductivity to the air like the salts emitting Becquerel radiation. Photographic effects of ozone have been observed. It does not act upon barium platinocyanide or zinc oxide, but it causes hexagonal zinc chloride to be deposited on glass plates, a result comparable with the Alpha rays of radium. Platinum that has been in contact with ozone shows induced radio-activity. It is suggested that the slight conductivity of the atmosphere and certain of the effects of radio-active substances may be due to the formation and decomposition of ozone.

## Curious Facts.

Twelve years ago there were two thousand Japanese in the United States. Today there are 24,300.

The first equestrian statue erected in London was of Charles I., in Whitehall, 1678.

A wine cask has just been built in California to hold ninety-seven thousand gallons. Its iron hoops weigh thirty thousand pounds.

British troops in India have lately celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of being permitted to wear moustaches.

The first steamer on the Thames was the Marjory, in 1814. The Richmond followed her a year later.

There is only one place in the world where the sun sets twice in the same day, and that is at Leek, in England. There is a jagged mountain there and the sun sets behind it and it grows dark. An hour later the sun reappears at a gap in the side of the mountain, and it is light again until the real sunset.

No tree has ever been found to be lighter than the Sicilian "chestnut of a hundred horses." It is no less than 304 feet in circumference.

The coronation robe presented to the Empress of Russia was of fur. It weighed only sixteen ounces, yet was worth \$6000, or \$300 per ounce.

The Chinese have twice sacked Moscow, once in 1237 and again in 1293.

All miles in Japan run day and night, the change of hands being made at noon and midnight.

In Persia, India and China the lower classes still live, as a rule, together with their animals in the same unsanitary conditions.

The life of a dime is only four or five years, because it changes hands ten times while a half dollar is moved once from one person's pocket into the till of another.

By the flash of an electric spark one hundred and twenty-five millions of a second in duration a rifle bullet can be photographed in its flight.

A fir tree was cut in Oregon recently which made nine saw logs averaging fourteen feet in length, scaling 12,485 feet board measure, and the lumbermen quit cutting off saw logs when their diameter reached less than forty inches. The product of this one tree, when it reaches the consumer in the central West, will bring over \$1000.

Prof. Edward Thorndike of the Western Reserve University has recently conducted a series of experiments on "mental fatigue," and his conclusions throw doubt on the old theory that the mind "loses its power to work as the rubber ball loses its power to bound," and that sleep charges the mind with power. On the con-

trary, he finds that the degree of inability caused by mental work is very much less than has been supposed, and he questions whether the results obtained by investigators who have sought to measure mental fatigue in school children were not due to the use of methods which did not measure the inability, but did measure the distaste for mental effort.

Crete pays a bounty of \$206 a ton for locusts' eggs. Five years ago sixty tons were destroyed in one year, equal to 60,000,000 locusts. It is calculated that locusts annually devastate eight million acres and destroy half the crop on an area of double that size, that is to say, this one insect alone lessens the world's food supply by \$200,000,000 a year.

One of the most durable woods is sycamore. A statue made from it, now in the museum of Gizeh, at Cairo, is known to be nearly six thousand years old. Notwithstanding this great age, it is asserted that the wood itself is entirely sound and natural in appearance.

The largest plow in the world is owned by Richard Gird of San Bernardino County, Cal. This immense agricultural machine stands eight feet high and weighs thirty-six thousand pounds. It runs by steam, is provided with twelve twelve-inch plowshares, and is capable of plowing fifty acres of land per day. It consumes from one to one and a half tons of coal per day, and usually travels at the rate of four miles an hour. As nearly as possible eight thousand gallons of fresh water are used in a large battle-ship daily. About two-thirds of this is taken up by the boilers, and the remainder is used for drinking, washing, cooking, etc. When the store which has taken out with her from port has been used up, a vessel has to depend upon her evaporators for further supplies. Every modern warship is fitted with evaporating machinery to distill the salt sea water.

Police protection costs about \$100,000 a year in New York, \$37,000 in Chicago, \$35,000 in Philadelphia, \$1,650,000 in St. Louis and \$1,800,000 in Boston.

The smallest French soldier at present serving with the colors is an artillery man belonging to the Third Colonial Company at Lorien. He is employed as a joiner, under the direction of the naval artillery, and is only four feet six inches high. He took voluntary engagements for five years and could only contract this engagement with the assent of the minister of war.

## Gems of Thought.

Each day has its special privileges as well as its special duties. The morning is a good time for considering in advance the duties, the evening for considering in retrospect the privileges.

"What ought I to do today?" is a good question to start out with, and "What have I gained?" a good question to close with.—Helpful Thoughts.

There is a foolish proverb that says that those people are happy who have no history. In other words, it is better to be a cow than a man. I cannot see it.—Benson's Book of Months.

Believe that there is no way, that no love, no life, goes ever from us: it goes as He went, that it may come again, deeper and deeper, and surer, to be with us always even to the end of the world.—George MacDonald.

I have observed that children when they first put on new shoes are very curious to keep them clean. Scarcely will they step their feet on the ground for fear to dirt the soles of their shoes. Yes, rather will they wipe the leather clean with their coats; and yet, perchance, the next day they will trample with the same shoes in the mire up to the ankles. Alas! children's play is our earnest. On that day wherein we receive the sacrament we are often over-earnest, scrupling to say or do those things which lawfully we may. But we, who are more than curious that day, are not so much as careful the next; and, too often go on in sin up to the ankles; yea—our sins go over our heads.—Thomas Fuller.

The Sacramentum was the Roman soldiers' oath, in which he renewed allegiance to the emperor and the state. And even such is our sacrament the renewal of our oath of service to God and King.

One of the weightiest rules of the spiritual life is to abide in the present moment without looking beyond.—Fenelon.

Remember that if the opportunities for good deeds should never come, the opportunity for good deeds is renewed for you day by day. The thing for us to long for is the goodness, not the glory.—Farrar.

In constant dependence, in uninterrupted communion with God is your salvation, peace, joy, your preparation for pure, faithful, complete living.—Froebel.

Imagine Jesus examining your work, as He will at the last day; and strive that there may be no flaw in it, that it may be thoroughly well executed, both in its outer man and inner spirit.—Dean Goulburn.

There are snobs now who behave almost as nicely in the privacy of their homes as in the presence of a duchess. They are much more particular as to the way in which others shall behave to them. That is a test, by the bye. The snob thinks most of the treatment he receives from the world; the gentleman thinks first how he shall act courteously to others.—From Crawford's "Heart of Rome."

Some people seem to think that death is the only reality in life. Others, happier and righter minded, see and feel that life is the reality in death.—Julius Hare.

Oh, ye poor, dry and dead souls, why will ye not come hither with your empty vessels and your empty souls, to this deep and sweet well of life, and fill your empty vessels.—S. Rutherford.

## Notes and Queries.

ANNEXATION OF HAWAII.—"Triton": It was annexed to the United States by joint resolution of Congress, July 6, 1898. A bill to create Hawaii a Territory was passed by Congress and approved April 30, 1898. The total area of the Hawaiian group of islands is 6740 square miles. When Captain Cook discovered the islands in 1778 the native population was two hundred thousand. It is now but thirty-one thousand.

LOUHAN'S THEORY.—"Paul": The mean temperatures in Iceland for the last twenty years, compiled by the weather bureau of Reykjavik, are as follows: Spring, 39.04; summer, 53.54; autumn, 37.94; winter, 29.18. This is Fahrenheit. Moreover, the thermometer has not been anywhere near zero in the country since 1882, when it struck eight below. So it would seem that Iceland had been misnamed.

THE PHILIPPINES.—"P.": This group of islands has a land area of 140,000 square miles. The six New England States, together with New York and New Jersey, have about an equivalent area. The population of the archipelago is about eight million, including one million savages.

NOT FIT TO HOLD A CANDLE TO HIM.—"Will": The origin of this familiar expression is thus explained. The custom of holding the candle for a reader dates back to the old times, when illuminators were scarce and inadequate. One can fancy that in the lady's bower the favorite page or the privileged maid would be the one to stand near the mistress and "hold the candle." The phrase, perhaps, has acquired additional weight from ecclesiastical usage; for the reading of the gospel, two servers held the candles; and the appropriateness of the externals to the act of proclaiming the Light of the World led to the erecting of the necessary deacon in the liturgical symbol familiar to us today.

BOILING POINT OF METALS.—"A. E.": Kraft has determined the boiling point of certain metals by the use of vessels of quartz heated by an electric furnace, according to the Scientific American. Zinc sublimes below 300°, and at 660° distills fairly quick; the corresponding temperatures for cadmium are 322° and 469°. Selenium distills quickly at 380°, tellurium at 550°, being observable at 530°. Lead boils rapidly and distills at 1100°. Tin proved very refractory, no distillation occurring even at 1100°. At 900° antimony sublimes slowly, and at 710° to 730° distills rapidly. Sublimation of bismuth commenced at 510°, the sublimate assumed the form of drops at 500°, and the metal boiled briskly at 1000°.

CHESTER WHITES.—"R. F. D. No. 1, Reddick, Ill.": Write to

Champion Hurd, 1900, 1901, 1902. Of up-to-date prize-winning Chester Whites. This herd won many prizes in 1900 and 1901, and the Champion White herd in the world. If you wish from this herd write to

J. W. DORSEY & SONS, Perry, Ill.

THE ONTARIO VETERINARY COLLEGE, Limited. Temperance St., Toronto, Canada. Affiliated with the University of Toronto.

Patrons—Governor-General of Canada and Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. The most successful veterinary institution in America. All examinations held in the College building, Toronto, Ontario, beginning October 14th. Apply to Principals, ANDREW SMITH, R. F. C. V. S., Toronto, Ont.

R. Lilburn, Emerald Grove, Wis., breeder of the best strains of Aberdeen Angus cattle. Established 1882. Also registered Shetland ponies.

A fine lot of March pigs. Pairs and trios and all sizes. R. F. D. No. 1, Reddick, Ill. Write to

Champion Hurd, 1900, 1901, 1902. Of up-to-date prize-winning Chester Whites. This herd won many prizes in 1900 and 1901, and the Champion White herd in the world. If you wish from this herd write to

J. W. DORSEY & SONS, Perry, Ill.

slight mirror of silver appeared at 1000, and rapid vaporization proceeded at 1340. Silver and gold boil at too high temperatures to be examined in silica, with the former a small amount of sublimate formed at 1412, with the latter a small amount of sublimate at 1525, the sublimate in the vapor arose even at 1525, which is near the point at which the resistance of silica breaks down.

THE TOBACCO CRUSADE.—"G. H.": About the beginning of the seventeenth century was the golden age of tobacco. Poets sang its praises and books were written about the wonderful medicinal and other mysterious qualities of the plant. In London the tobacco trade was enormous, and all sundry shops, apothecaries, grocers and chandler sold it. The colonies of Virginia and Maryland sold it. It was given to the culture of the plant, and the profits of tobacco became so alluring that all other occupations were forsaken for it. It became such a rage in England that a crusade was started to suppress the use of it. James I. in 1604 issued his famous "Constitution" in which tobacco was spoken of as "a filthy, idle, hurtful, to the nose, and the back, stinking fume thereof, resembling the horrible Stygian smoke of the pit that is bottomless." He raised the importation duty to six shillings ten pence a pound, against two pence, the original tariff. In 1620 on the whole West Indies tobacco was worth five shillings. Some of the penalties were worth severe for its use. For just taking a pipe of the nose was cut off, and Pope Urban VIII. in 1629 sought to have excommunicated every one who took a whiff from a pipe or a pipe of tobacco in his mouth. The Sultan Ahmed IV. of Turkey even declared smoking a crime punishable with death. These decrees had but little effect beyond increasing its use.

MILKSTONE.—"B. R. D.": The utilization of milk



# Poultry.

## The Rhode Island Whites.

It is doubtful whether a better all-round fowl can be produced than the Rhode Island Whites. They have proved their good qualities under all conditions. As appears from the photograph, they very much resemble the Plymouth Rock in shape and size, except their comb, which is more like the Wyandotte.

They are healthy and hardy, the chicks are easy to raise, and as dressed poultry they have no superior, either as broilers or roasters. Their yellow skin, clean legs, small bone and plump breasts make them an ideal fowl for market. They are rapid growers and mature about as early as the Leghorns. They seldom want to set, but when they do they make good mothers, and as egg producers I have never seen their equal. I have raised poultry and eggs for market for about twenty-five years, and have bred about all the different varieties except the games and bantams, and while I find all the different breeds have some particular good qualities, yet with me, under the same conditions, the Rhode Island Whites excel all other breeds.

Warefield, R. I. J. A. JOCEY.

## Early Hatched Chicks.

When using a hen to hatch eggs it is generally well to leave her alone while the eggs are chipping, and the early hatched ones seldom come to harm while waiting for their later-hatched brethren. If, however, the hen is inclined to be fussy, it is safer to remove the early birds and put them in the drying-box of an incubator at work.

But there is one thing sure: chickens under the hen cannot get too hot, in the incubator drawer they can. We sometimes forget when examining the thermometer that it only registers the temperature in its immediate vicinity; of course, the incubator should be so constructed that the heat is equally distributed, but we can only hope this is the case. Now the chickens out of the shell get on the top of the eggs and closer to the tank—if the incubator is one of the hot-water machines; they are then in a higher temperature than the thermometer and may be roasting themselves. Some growers lower the temperature about a couple of degrees at hatching time, but many poultry-keepers like to run it at this time at 103° and 104°, and how much hotter it is on the top of the eggs we do not know, but hotter it certainly will be. This extreme heat is bad for the chickens and weakens them, for the few hours after hatching are a critical time for them.

They will do just as well in a drying-box, where they will be ten degrees cooler than in the egg-drawer, provided it is well ventilated. The point is not to leave chickens in the incubator, but remove them as soon as possible to the drying-box, taking great care while moving them they do not take a chill, for at this age they are extraordinarily susceptible to chills; 90° to 95° is warm enough for young chickens, never hotter, and this temperature can be gradually reduced as they grow older. Far more chickens die from being too hot than from being too cold.

## Getting Ready for Early Chicks.

As it is coming the time to raise chicks and you have leisure time now, have everything cleaned up and put in readiness for the work. Or see if you could not cut a few logs and get some lumber sawed for a better poultry house for next winter. Get it erected early next fall for those early hatched pullets. Hatch chicks early in March. The cockerels make fine table meat in harvest, and the pullets, being well matured in the fall, make good winter layers. It is very little trouble to grow chicks in March if you have an incubator and brooder, and the early chicks are seldom troubled with gaps and should be free from lice. As for gaps, a few years ago they were bad at my place. The past two years I have not had a gap chick. Early chicks, free use of air-slacked lime everywhere about the buildings, brooders, etc., have destroyed the gap worm entirely at my place.

If growing chicks in a brooder, it should be kept at an even temperature of about 95° the first week, and lower as they get older. Many are troubled with fowl diseases that come from too low or too high a temperature at some time, usually the first two weeks. After that they learn to brood up or scatter out as the heat requires them to do. The best feed for chicks the first two weeks is bread, milk and boiled eggs. Tested out or spoiled incubator eggs should be buried. If fed will cause bowel trouble and diseases. After the second week, on one feed a day get ground corn, three parts, mixed with milk and a bit of soda baked as Johnny cake. Millet, cracked wheat and corn with milk to drink for two months, then whole grain three times a day with grit at all times, and they are ready for market at any time.—J. M. Yoder, Holmesville, O.

## Among the Poultry Keepers.

The poultry industry is in its infancy.—W. Gibbs, Penobscot County, Me.

I have been feeding skim milk sixteen years; that is, my first feed in the morning is warm skim milk. That furnishes a drink and a food. We have what we call automatic fountains; by the use of them, you put the milk in a saucer below, and there is never more than half an inch on the side of the saucer, and they cannot get into it.—J. L. Herber, Sparta, Wis.

Sitting hens should be well dusted with some good house killer when set, and two weeks later, or before chicks hatch. You cannot raise lice and chicks at one time and have success with the chicks.—J. M. Yoder, Holmesville, O.

The poultry business is one in which to start out boys and girls if they have a taste for it. The poultry product of Ohio for the last year was \$20,000,000. The argument that it is a dirty business in poultry raising prices will go down is fallacious. Pennsylvania and New York do not produce one-fifth of the eggs they use. One firm in Pittsburg, dealing in poultry products alone, handles between three hundred and four hundred crates daily.—T. E. Orr, Orange County, N. Y.

## Borticultural.

### Fruit Growers at Worcester.

Attendance was larger than ever before at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts fruit growers at Worcester, March 9-10. Owing to the illness of president A. G. Sharp, vice-president J. James was presiding officer.

### THE SCALE PEST.

A written report from President Sharp expressed a cheerful view of the outlook for fruit growing. The subject of "Home-Grown Fruit Trees" was considered in an address by Prof. G. O. Green of Amherst, of which a summary will be given later in these columns. Wednesday afternoon Prof.

H. T. Fernald read an instructive paper on the San Jose scale. As a remedy the lime and sulphur wash was favored, to be applied by the common spraying apparatus. If but few trees are to be sprayed, and facilities for making other sprays are limited, potash whale oil soap seemed to be one of the most convenient treatments to use.

A brief address on "Some Common Fruit Insects" was given by A. H. Kirkland, in which a number of insects were described which fed upon harmful insects.

In the discussion which followed, E. P. Felt, New York State entomologist, like Professor Fernald, favored the lime-sulphur mixture for scale. To seven or eight gallons of warm water sufficient lime should be added to slake the mass thoroughly. Then sulphur should be added, and heat applied for thirty minutes. This method, he said, saved an extra outlay of an hour and a half in boiling. The experts present appeared to favor the caustic wash just described rather than the risky kerosene or petroleum sprays sometimes used.

MULCH METHOD ON ROUGH LAND.

The opening feature of Thursday's program was a stereopticon talk by H. W. Collingwood of New York. The speaker, described in a lively manner his experience on a run-down New Jersey farm. He had about ninety acres, "subsoil, mostly rocks," and was growing young orchards on all but about ten acres of the best. He practiced the mulch system without cultivation. Trees were very severely pruned, root and branch, before setting. The trees, as shown by the photographs, had made good growth during the three or four years they had been set. In the discussions, the questions brought out the fact that the land had not been plowed for a very long time. S. H. Warren of Western declared that the growth of the trees was mainly owing to the soil being new. Others thought the good growth might not continue.

### ACTUAL CONDITIONS OF SUCCESS OR FAILURE.

Various topics connected with orchard tillage and culture were explained in an entertaining way by Prof. John Craig of New York Experiment Station, the statements being illustrated by stereopticon views of actual conditions in the great orchard sections of western New York. The object of investigations made had been to find out just what conditions and methods prevailed and the results. The ownership question was found to be of some importance. The orchards on rented farms averaged only 192 bushels to the acre, while those cared for by their owners averaged 201 bushels.

Another cause of poor results and close planting. Some trees grow so near together that they run up like forest trees, making the fruit scanty and hard to pick and interfering with spraying or pruning. Orchards set 30x30 feet averaged 222 bushels per acre, those 35x35 feet averaged 226 bushels, and those 40x40 averaged 249 bushels, these relative results being substantially confirmed through several years. Lack of drainage was another common trouble, many of these orchards being located on flats with the soil rather heavy and moist. Trees in wet places shed their leaves early, failed to properly ripen the fruit and broke down at an early age. The investigation produced on the average much better crops than those not cultivated, and those cultivated every year did far better than those cultivated a part of the time. Both the cultivated and the uncultivated orchards observed were manured or fertilized. Some of the uncultivated ones were pastured, but no hay was out from any of them. Professor Craig came out strong in favor of cover crops, especially vetch and the clovers. This side of the question seemed to arouse special interest, judging by the fact that nearly all the questions in the discussion were along this line.

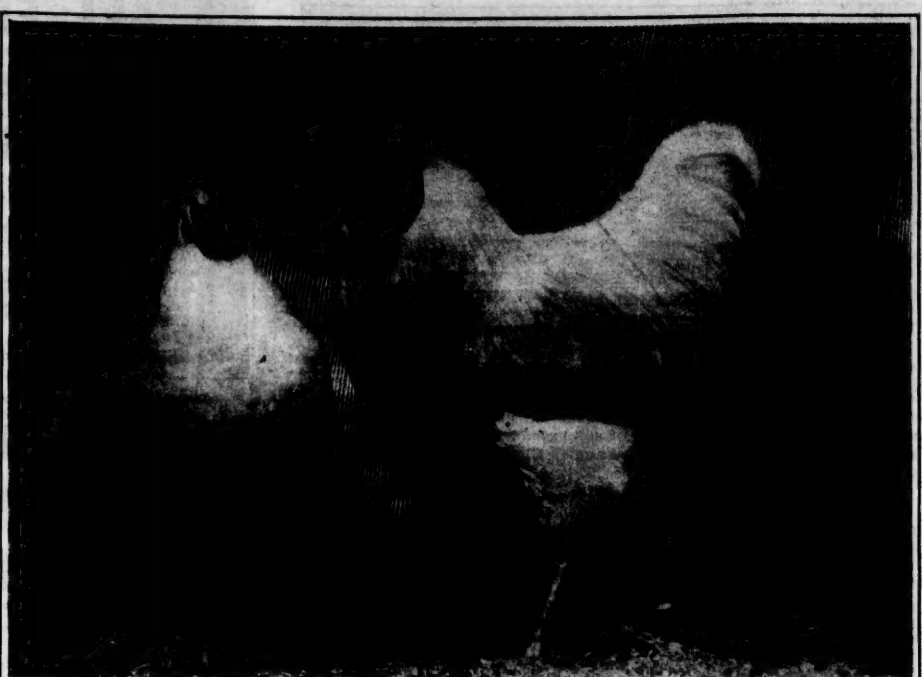
"What is the meaning of cover crops?" was asked. They were to protect the land late in the season, was explained. To keep it from washing, from losing richness, also to store up plant food from the air and soil to be turned under in the spring.

"When should vetch be sown?" It could be sown very late in favorable seasons. Some sown last year, Aug. 20, just before cutting the corn bed, made a fine growth by winter; should live over and supply a great deal of vegetable matter and nitrogen to the orchards. It should be plowed under as early as possible or growth would run up and become troublesome. "Is vetch better than crimson clover?" Yes, for the North, because it is the high price of vetch seed. Professor Wagon of Amherst Agricultural College said vetch was easily grown on the college farm. Vetch would produce four to six bushels of seed to the acre. Professor Craig is a new speaker to most people in this section, for the reason that he has but lately been "annexed" from a Canadian institution. The impression made by him at Worcester seemed to be distinctly favorable.

### A FARM COLD-STORAGE PLANT.

The general subject of cold storage was described in an interesting manner by J. W. Clark of North Hadley, whose address was founded largely on his personal to the home-made storage house for apples. The building cost him about \$1000, besides a part of the labor and materials which were supplied from the farm resources. The plan of storage has proved a success, and Mr. Clark thinks it would pay where eight

PAIR OF RHODE ISLAND WHITES.



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hundred barrels or more are to be stored. He advised that fruit for storage should be well grown, picked at the right time and quickly stored, under which condition it will keep for a long time. One advantage is that the apples could be more quickly gathered and housed with the same amount of help, as compared with the plan, and shipping at once and the sorting and barreling could be done in winter with the regular farm help. Another advantage was the possibility of keeping the dropped fruit later than usual, thus selling it to a better advantage as compared with those who had to sell at once. Orchardists who had storage could avoid selling any amount of fruit on a glutted market, but could deal it out gradually when it was most wanted.

Fruit for storage should be grown with plenty of sunshine and air to give it good color. Fruit of poor color is more subject to mold while in storage. Greenings should be sold about Jan. 1; Baldwins will stand longer storage.

Last year apples ripened earlier than usual. The speaker's were all picked Oct. 3. He began to pick on the knolls and upland, commencing to gather when sound fruit begins to drop.

In constructing a house he would rather have air spaces than sawdust, as sawdust would rot the building. His storage walls contained three partitions, the central space being filled with five hundred bushels of charcoal dust. For storing he preferred bins to barrels, because for one reason it is possible by this plan to pick up the barrels gradually at the stores. The apples were stored in bins, within two feet to 3½ feet, on the floors. They were handled by a scoop shovel; with the edge rounded by careful handling it was possible to move them without bruising any, and much more rapidly than could be done by hand. Mr. Clark stored mostly number two apples. He had found that number ones could be sold at once at satisfactory results where the number twos they would often sell later in the season for as much as other farmers had obtained for number ones.

The apples were got to the storage houses as soon as possible and cooled down immediately. If stored in barrels the heads should be kept close at 40° all the time. Ice was needed in winter as much as in the fall. The house had frozen a little on one occasion last winter, which was the first time, and was owing to carelessness in leaving the inside doors open. Before that time warm weather had given much more trouble than cold. The frozen apples were thawed out carefully and sold without difficulty. Apple storage had usually paid Mr. Clark, but occasionally it had not. He could keep fruit up to April 1 as well as could be done in chemical storage. In the cities where the cost of storage would be thirty-five cents or more per barrel. The cost to Mr. Clark was merely the interest on his investment of \$1000, the labor of putting in the ice, tending the house and making repairs, etc.

He advised building a cold-storage house above ground, but said a common storage house under ground could be used for cold storage by arranging a place overhead to keep the ice. He advised a brick floor rather than cement in order to let in moisture. The advantage of the building above ground was that the ice would keep better. President Wilson of the Worcester Horticultural Society described a visit to a large Boston cold-storage house, which had 2,500,000 cubic feet of cold storage, devoting five hundred thousand feet to eggs alone, besides the refrigerating service, supplied through pipes, the same as gas, to about five hundred refrigerators outside. The manager told him the best pear for storage was the Anjou, which, he said, should never be put into storage until about fit to eat. It never ripens much after taken out. The Dana Hovey had given very poor results from storage.

### FRUIT STORAGE AND CELLAR RHUBARB.

An interesting exhibit of apples, pears and vegetables was displayed in the ante-room. A. A. Guild's Anjou pears, kept in a cellar in a fine state of preservation, attracted notice. Mr. Guild believes such fruit far more healthful than that from cold storage. He picks a little before ripening, handles "a little more carefully than eggs" and places in single layers on shelves in a very cool, even cellar, which he ventilates often and tries to keep at about 40°. H. R. Kinney and George D. Leavens showed some handsome cellar-grown rhubarb. They report the demand very light for this product, but think the market will improve as soon as its good qualities become known.

### Apple Markets Slightly Weaker.

The supply of apples has increased somewhat with the milder weather which has permitted shipment without danger of freezing. A large proportion of recent arrivals are from farmers' cellars. The present is about the limit of profitable storage of common varieties in cellars and nearly so in storage houses which depend only on ice.

The larger supply, together with the weakness in foreign markets, has caused some shading of recent prices, and slightly lower quotations must be given on some grades and varieties. Most lots of cellar-stored apples range at \$2.50 to \$3.00 per bushel, but a few are as high as \$3.50, packed, showing a condition nearly equal to choice cold-storage fruit. There is no reason to expect a serious decline unless the foreign markets give out entirely.

Some of the fruit experts are predicting a boom in the apple market on account of the short supply in storage. It is stated that the amount of

such apples cannot be over 1,500,000 barrels, which would be five hundred thousand barrels less than the stock in March last year. Some dealers claim that the shortage is even greater than indicated by these figures. It is estimated that the Western stock and that of Canada has nearly all been sold, the stock remaining in the United States being placed at not over three hundred thousand barrels, but there is no way of getting at the figures very exactly. It is believed that the foreign market will take all the apples that can be spared at good prices. Predictions of \$5 per barrel for good fruit have been made, but as quoted last week, \$3 is a common figure for choice lots, but many run considerably below down to \$2.

—Attorney-General Parker has given to the Massachusetts committee on agriculture an opinion that the draft of a bill is constitutional which would give to the city of Boston the right to regulate the sale of fruit in the State and the municipalities affected, and it also says that the draft is a public nuisance. The latter provision enables the local authorities to take needed steps to abate the nuisance. It gives them the power to require any property owner to abate the nuisance upon his premises, at his own expense. But it is not the expectation or intention of the committee that the law would ever be stretched to such an extreme, for it would put upon the individual property owner the expense that he could possibly stand, in some cases. Such power is regarded as necessary to the thorough treatment of the pest, so that premises may be entered upon and radical measures taken, if necessary, but it is not expected that any property owner will be injured by such a law.

—Recent French papers state that according to information from St. Petersburg, the Russian government has forbidden the exportation of eggs. The Russo-Japanese war is mentioned as the cause of this abrupt action.

—In the month of January, 1904, sheep to the number of 36,808 and valued at \$241,139 were exported, as against 19,613 sheep, of the value of \$128,861, exported during January, 1903. In the same month 1903 sheep, of the value of \$8195, were imported from foreign countries.

—While there has been a marked decline in most of the articles of export, from Boston since the first of January, this cannot be said of the shipments of agricultural implements, which have gained in value since the first of January, over the corresponding period last year.

—The Committee on Agriculture has voted to divide the gypsy-moth bill and report two bills. The first of these will be an emergency bill and will contain those two sections of the bill drafted by the committee, which declare the moth a public nuisance, and so places upon cities and towns the duty of compelling property owners to exterminate it. As this bill would carry no State appropriation, it would not have to be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. The second, or regular bill, which the committee has voted to report, provides for an appropriation of \$300,000 (\$100,000 a year for three years), this being the State's half, and the cities and towns to pay the other half, also an appropriation of \$5000 a year for three years for parasites. The committee members did not want to divide the bill, but with an executive veto staring them in the face, they had no alternative. At any rate the bill will apply only to pupae, nests and eggs. The result may be no legislation. The regular bill would have to go to Ways and Means, which, in view of the Governor's attitude, would be unlikely to report favorably. On the other hand, the moth-infested cities and towns may have a hard fight against the first, or emergency, bill. One of the representatives said today: "If proper care is taken to have to go to Ways and Means, which, in view of the Governor's attitude, would be unlikely to report favorably. On the other hand, the moth-infested cities and towns may have a hard fight against the first, or emergency, bill. One of the representatives said today: "If proper care is taken to have to go to Ways and Means, which, in view of the Governor's attitude, would be unlikely to report favorably. On the other hand, the moth-infested cities and towns may have a hard fight against the first, or emergency, bill. 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# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

It's a poor minor poet who can't seize the opportunity to make a poem in burlesque Russian.

Cupid may well figure among the mourners at the bier of the woman who originated the lace paper valentine.

All who love peanuts will rejoice at the fine imposed on the Cambridge vendor who was caught selling a short pint.

No one will accuse Beals Island, Me., of trying to make itself popular as a summer resort for families with young children.

Perhaps the best news of the week is the legal decision that a gramophone is sometimes a public nuisance. We had long suspected it.

Certainly we agree with Congressman Gaines. It would be much pleasanter always to have our one hundred-dollar bills in nice clean currency.

A street in London has been named after Kipling. Now it's the turn of persons who don't like the great poet of Imperialism to remark that it is probably a noisy street.

And now comes science to disabuse our faith in the efficacy of a fish diet as a brain nourisher. Fortunately, however, we still have the advertisements of the health food; and there are more coming.

Even if nothing is to be done toward making the Fourth of July somewhat quieter, it still remains evident that there is a growing demand for some such innovation. Civilization always advances by slow stages.

Undoubtedly General Miles would get the prohibition vote of Boston; but we very much doubt this rumor of his being a candidate for it. It's a good way for any one to disprove the notion that he has designs on the Presidency.

Although the separation of Professor Triggs from Chicago University is arousing various kinds of comment, the professor's latest article in the Philistine is hardly likely to make the thoughtful reader feel unkindly toward the university.

Few persons probably have realized that right within eight miles of Newton Highlands is located one of the best brooks in the State for trout fishing; and now one has to be a member of the Newton Highlands Rod and Gun Club to go out and fish in it.

That was a rapid change of heart experienced the other day by the man who exclaimed: "This is a fine morning to go to heaven," leaped from the East Boston ferry boat, and then changed his mind and started to swim ashore. Possibly, he meant East Boston.

A young man in New York is reported to be astounding the medical profession by proving that one may be shot through the head and yet recover and enjoy good health with a bullet still lodged somewhere in one's thinking apparatus. The young man, we judge, will never again be accused of being light headed.

The plain people will doubtless be pleased to know that the Russo-Japanese war has not affected the personal relations of Miss Roosevelt and the Countess Cassini. There is no visible reason why it should—but the fact that it doesn't makes a serviceable headline in the newspaper.

A co-operative enterprise in Iowa buys and sells all kinds of farm merchandise for its members, and successfully carries on a business of \$620,000 on a capital of less than \$25,000. The company has handled five million dollars without loss. And yet they say farmers cannot co-operate!

The spring season South seems to be opening about as usual; earlier than usual in Texas and the Southwest. It frequently happens that the season in the South is a prophecy of the season North, but thus far the Northern season is decidedly backward, as compared with the past two years.

Now that a Harvard professor has said that the average undergraduate out at Cambridge doesn't think, we cannot but wonder what is the average undergraduate condition down at New Haven. When Harvard admits have occasion to turn crimson, Yale admits usually have occasion to feel blue.

A man in a Salem audience the other day has apparently established an antidote for the fellow who yells "fire." Slapping a neighbor's face may not be altogether dignified, but it evidently has its value in changing the current of your neighbor's thoughts at the moment when he is about to precipitate a panic.

We are interested to note that a young man who was treated to a coat of tar and feathers not long ago by the mad wags of a small New England college has been awarded \$1000 damages from his unconventional tailors. Calling in the law is not picturesque, but it has probably discouraged hazing in that quarter for some time to come.

Authors the world over will be interested in the case of Mr. and Mrs. Pennymann of London. Divorce recently made them two pence, so to speak; and Mr. Pennymann soon after published a book of which Mrs. Pennymann now declares she is the author, having unfortunately left the manuscript behind her at the time of separation. Mr. Pennymann declares otherwise, and the courts are being called upon to toss up between them.

New England fruit growers take an increasing interest in cover crops for orchards, as shown by the lively discussions both during and after the meetings at Worcester. The cover crop appears to solve the problem of keeping the land in good condition and securing growth of trees at slight outlay for manures, even permitting some quick growing money crop to be raised between the young trees the first part of the season.

Some ambitious boys at the Missouri farm college are starting a paper to spread agricultural learning broadcast. They say: "We young men, the students, are being shown," and we propose in turn to show our parents and the boys at home who cannot leave the farm what is being taught here

that is of value to us and to them." Rather self-assured for college boys. Most likely they will find out later when they get down to real business that the old folks can still show them a little something about practical farming. But the boys mean well no doubt, and their idea is a good one as tending to bring the college world into closer touch with the farming public.

Every man who makes and sells a quart of milk ought to help support the Milk Producers Association. The whole market is braced up by its influence, and its success means better conditions for all producers; those who ship to independent dealers and those who peddle, as well as those who deal with the Boston contractors. It is becoming known and acknowledged that the main Boston situation sets the pace for the independent trade and for the smaller cities. The better conditions of the Boston trade have also enabled the retail milk farmers in many places to raise prices during the past two or three years. If all who have received benefit direct and indirect would join the association and stand by it, the present favorable situation could be continued, and the members would get their money back many times a year in the shape of better markets. The producer who keeps out of the association is saving a dollar at the risk of losing many, and is shirking his plain duty. Send in your name, Mr. Milk Farmer.

The people in the gypsy moth district are becoming anxious over the situation, which they consider rather threatening from several points of view. In the first place the delay of the Massachusetts Legislature in taking definite action will increase the difficulty and expense of getting the eggs destroyed before they have a chance to hatch. It is the same difficulty that need to both the moth commission. By the time the law-makers had fairly awakened the eggs had begun to hatch. A moth at the top of a great shade tree is plainly more difficult to kill than when snugly packed inside the egg with a cluster of several hundred brethren, all within easy reach. Property owners are also worrying lest the cry of State economy should induce the Legislature to saddle the whole task of extermination upon the towns infested, or rather upon the owners whose land is overrun with the moth. This plan would put a great expense upon owners of woodland, more in some cases, perhaps, than the value of the land. Another bill also under consideration gives \$100,000 a year for three years, the cities and towns directly concerned to pay as much more. This is a more reasonable measure. The cost of fighting a pest of State and even of national importance should not be charged wholly against a few unlucky land owners, who are likely to suffer anyway through the ravages of the pest and the increase of town taxes.

## The Milk Situation.

This year is likely to prove a critical period, not only in the history of the milk business, but likewise in the development of co-operation among farmers. The success of the ambitious project of the New England milk producers would probably become an entering wedge for similar movement to get better conditions in the markets for other kinds of farm produce.

The settlement of the summer price is, of course, the matter of immediate concern, since the new plan cannot in any case be put in working condition before autumn. In order to avoid if possible any serious present dispute with the contractors, the association deputies will ask only a renewal of last summer's contract with the same price and the same conditions. The contractors may as usual try to secure further concessions, but the prospect of high-priced grain and feed and the likelihood of a late and slow beginning of the pasture season, are features which work for high-priced milk. It seems very probable that milk will cost more to produce than for many seasons past, and the demand for last season's terms is surely well inside its limits. Milk at present is rather plenty owing to the good hay crop which enables farmers to keep their herds up to full number and to feed them well. Conditions are not likely to favor the production of milk this summer, and in case of short hay crop, there will be a pronounced shortage in the milk supply for the greater part of the year, especially if grain should again or exceed the sensational prices lately noted.

The directors of the association meet in Boston the latter part of the present week to arrange further details of the new company. It is stated by prominent officials of the association that a number of changes are likely to be made in the plan as previously announced, especially in regard to the distribution of stock and the method of handling the product. The prospect is being worked out in the most painstaking way, with a businesslike attention to all needs and possibilities. It is conceded that the great difficulty will be to get the milk farmers to hold close together, and at the same time loosen their purse strings to buy the needed equipment.

The association is fortunate in its thoroughly trustworthy and devoted board of directors and two very able and hard-working executive officers, as president and secretary. No salary attaches to the president's position, but Mr. Hill is giving a great deal of time to the problem, making a careful study of the supply and demand of dairy products and the possibilities of improving the local situation besides co-operating with Mr. Hunter in the numerous duties of his situation. Both these hard-working officers express themselves very hopefully. Interest of members is growing and new ones are joining; dues are being satisfactorily collected. Instructions from local associations show a united and resolute frame of mind, and the plans for handling the milk direct are approaching completion.

## Public Forestry.

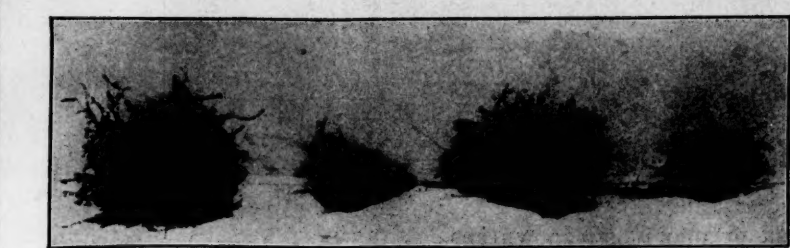
The beginnings of a systematic forestry policy are contained in a bill pending before the Massachusetts Legislature. The bill provides for the appointment by the Governor of a forester, who shall serve for one year, and who shall hire a corps of assistants, subject to the approval of the Governor and council. It would be his duty to further the perpetuation, extension and proper management of the forest lands of the State, both public and private.

The friends of the measure urge the plan outlined will encourage the planting of woodlands and provide a kind of school for the forest owners of the State. It is stated that about sixty per cent. of the State's area is in woodland, and that the product is of great and increasing value because of the good local markets for lumber and firewood. Some of the land now in cultivation would, perhaps, pay better if set to certain kinds of trees, although that claim has not yet been proved. But the case of present sources land their protection from fire is cause for attention on the part of the



## ASPARAGUS TOPS.

The bunch at the left of the illustration was on land treated with lime and sulphate of ammonia, also potash, phosphoric acid and magnesia. The bunch at the extreme right was on land treated the same except that nitrate of soda was used in place of sulphate of ammonia. The small bunch in the middle grew on a plot of same size as the others and fertilized the same, but was without lime. See article, "Opposite Effects of Lime."



## CRANBERRY VINES.

Unlimed. Sulphate of Ammonia. Limed. Nitrate of Soda. All manured alike with potash, phosphoric acid and magnesia.

State. Secretary Ellsworth of the Board of Agriculture likes the main idea of the bill, but thinks "the forester should be a sub-director of the board. Massachusetts is already over-supplied with self-sufficient, sometimes bumptious, special commissioners and officials." Mr. Ellsworth's idea that new appointments should be in harmony and co-operation with other similar interests is worth consideration. The increased attention paid to forestry improvement in New England and the Northern States has been very evident the past three years. No doubt there is more still to come in the way of organized teaching and supervision.

## Concerning Tunnels.

The tunnel under the North river at New York city, which was begun thirty years ago, is now completed, and in a year will be ready for business, not, however, in the way originally devised. The initial intention was to devote the tunnel to the use of freight trains, but it will now be employed for the travel of trolley cars. Before, however, it is in running order, a parallel tunnel beside it must be finished, so that transportation to and from the Jersey shore may be thoroughly available for passenger transportation.

Boston, with its tunnel to what was once called Noddie Island, is far ahead of her gigantic sister city in this direction, as she is also in the matter of subways underground for street railways. The Pennsylvania Company is constructing two tubes for its freight traffic under the Hudson river, so that people living in Jersey and doing business in New York, in twelve months or so, will have transit accommodations adequate to their needs. The slow-going old ferries will, no doubt, be kept in use for emergencies, and for those who do not care for quick travel as they are on the East river, notwithstanding its two large bridges connecting New York and Brooklyn. Our national metropolis is, of course, peculiarly situated on a long island, with wide waterways separating it from the opposite shores. London and Paris are crossed by comparatively narrow streams, which were easily bridged, but New York had greater difficulties to contend with in spanning the East river with structures that could be used for public travel, and there is no doubt, within the next half century, the bridge to Long Island over the East river will be multiplied fourfold.

The time will come when old New York, that is, Manhattan Island, will almost cease to be a residential section, and the majority of people will make their homes in the outlying districts of Greater New York, which may in the future include Jersey City and its environs. A visionary writer once hoped that the lower part of New York city, near the Battery, would again become a locality where reputable families would reside, but his dream will never, in all probability, be realized.

## The Postal Service.

"Congressional graft" in the postal service is receiving a great deal of attention since the report of the Overstreet committee has been made public, and it reminds an editorial writer in the New York Mail and Express of the Scriptural verse, "Take ye the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines, for our vines have tender grapes." In the showing that it makes of fifty dollars here a hundred dollars there for clerical work that, to make a bull, had never been performed. It also brings to mind abuses which appertain to the demands of a post-master, who feels that his campaign services have not been adequately remembered by his appointment, and therefore asks his congressional member to endorse the raising of the rent of a postoffice far beyond what could be got for it for ordinary purposes. This increase, when it was granted, was not perhaps a great expense in one instance, but when it was multiplied by like small extortions in various parts of the country, a large amount was taken out of the public treasury unjustly.

An Indiana postmistress, we are told, wrote to Congressman Hemenway as follows: "My dear Jim, can you get the rent of the postoffice here in this place raised to three hundred dollars? All other towns of the same size around here are getting that much." This is peculiar reasoning, and argues that if one community commits a wrong, a neighboring one must follow its example. This is a good deal like the logic that some people use in regard to smuggling, and which says that it is no harm to defraud the Government. Therefore we have had one district after another asking its congressman to stand by his "constituents" and throw it a little pap to which it is not rightly entitled. This whole system is demoralizing and is an adoption of the doctrine: "To the victors belong the spoils." The congressmen who comply with these really dishonest requests evidently do not regard public office as a public trust.

A proper supervision seems to have been wanting in the postoffice department, which prevented an intimate knowledge of what clerk hire was really needed in certain localities. Implicit confidence was placed in the statements of some congressmen, who

do not seem to have been trustworthy in their statements, when they said that the business in certain postoffices in their districts was suffering for a lack of sufficiency of clerks. To be sure, when it was discovered that the assertions were untrue, the extra allowance was stopped, but where did the increase go before drastic action was taken. It is said, too, that some senators and representatives, in defiance of public statute, rented buildings that they owned for local postoffices.

These proceedings cannot be laid at the door of any party. The men who furthered them are alone responsible, without regard to political belief or affiliations. The people govern this country, and they should show by their votes, when the time comes, how much they abhor crooked practices in their representatives.

## Green Vegetables.

Supplies in most lines have increased owing to milder weather favoring shipments, and the demand is rather quiet. The movement of prices has not been great in either direction, but the general tendency during the week has been slightly downward, especially for such lines as had risen to extreme figures.

Cabbages are a little easier on account of the increasing supplies of green stuff from the South which many consumers prefer to buy than to pay extreme figures for cabbage. There is also quite a lot of rather poor new cabbage from Cuba and the South, the new selling little, if any, higher than the best of the old. Parsnips are a little lower on account of large supplies of fresh dug roots from New Jersey and Philadelphia. It looks as though parsnips could not be dug for some time in this section. Workmen digging in the streets in Boston report about four feet of frost. Southern spinach is of good grade and very plenty, over three hundred barrels having arrived by boat Tuesday. Hothouse stuff mostly ranges high. Growers say cost almost as much as it did last year, the lower price per ton being offset by the larger quantity needed. Onions hold about as quoted last week, but are quite low increased. Potatoes are active, supply and demand being at about the price last quoted, or a few cents lower in some cases. Dealers generally predict higher prices before the season is over.

The market for potatoes is slightly stronger from farm advice from interior points, but prices show no improvement. A small lot of Scotch potatoes have been received, which are the first of the season; quality fine and offering at \$2.25. German potatoes show irregular quality, and Belgian and Irish are generally ordinary. Bermuda potatoes are slowly coming in, the high figures asked. Few Southern new potatoes are arriving. Sweet potatoes steady for fancy. Onions continue very firm for choice, but some poor stock is working out slowly at irregular figures. Asparagus is in light demand, and with quiet liberal arrivals the market is weaker. Brussels sprouts steady. New beets and carrots sell well, but old drag. Old cabbages continue in active demand; Florida more plenty and lower; steamer stock seldom exceeded \$2.25 to \$2.75, and rail receipts sold mainly from \$2.75 to \$3, though a little fancy brought \$3.25 and more. Celery more plenty and easier. Eggplant dull. Lettuce firm and high. Peppers weak. Peas firm for fancy, but poor drag. String beans in good supply, but few show quality to command outside figures. Tomatoes are in active supply and selling slowly at unit prices very fancy. The Norfolk steamer brought seven hundred barrels kale and 1100 barrels spinach Thursday, the eighteenth, which rather overstocked the market. Dry field beans are tending lower since the middle of the week.

Colorado growers have had good success in shipping seed potatoes to the South in cars heated by stoves. Dealers at Michigan shipping points are paying farmers 85 cents for potatoes and buying all they can get. It looks as if imports from Germany of potatoes were about done for the present, since prices there are as high as here after paying expenses of shipments. The demand for seed potatoes is reported brisk, the price for Maine stock in New York being \$3.50 to \$4.00 per barrel. Indications are for a heavy planting of seed potatoes this season in all parts of the country, where this crop is usually grown. Danish cabbages are about done for the season, the stock being about used up. This is the first year since 1898 that many cabbages have been imported. The boom in prices of onions is accounted for by the statement that the supply in New York is about ten per cent. of the usual quantity.

## Mapes Complete Manures.

How much fertilizer can we afford to buy? Whose fertilizers are best adapted to our use? These are questions prominent in the minds of every progressive farmer at this season of the year. No doubt high-grade fertilizers will pay to use if properly selected and judiciously applied.

Hundreds of our readers have profited in the past by the use of the well-known and highly appreciated "Mapes Manures." They have maintained the same high standard for thirty or forty years. They are no experiment to the farmer; they are always reliable and always prove in actual use what is claimed for them. They produce good crops at a profit to the farmer.

Aaron R. Niles, Toga County, Pa., cultivated last year thirty-one acres of celery; net receipt of the crop after deducting freight and commissions, \$11,504.76. All raised on the Mapes Manures. Report Nov. 10, 1903, from Mr. A. R. Niles, as follows: "We have decided, after our experience with the Mapes Manures the past two years, to sow 1000 pounds of Complete Manure (ten per cent. potash) broadcast, and to follow this with one thousand pounds Complete Manure, Light Soil, as we term it here 'in the row.' That is, first the ground is marked out after the ten per cent. potash has been applied broadcast and thoroughly mixed with the soil, and a Planet Jr. culti-

### ALL ENERGY.

That's the only fitting description of this little power. And because it is not only pumps, but saws, grinds, cuts, crushes, separates cream, runs lathes, cider mills, ice cream freezers, etc. We call it the

### Jack-of-all-Trades.

Unlike the human Jack it is master of every one, up to its limit, 3 full h.p. Think of the ways it can serve you. And you know it charges you only from 1 to 3 cents per hour for gasoline! It's always ready. Never balks or waits for wind to blow. Strong, safe, efficient. You need just such a power. Write for our free booklet on the Jack. All sizes, all purposes. Engines up to 300 h. p.

CHAS. J. JAGER COMPANY,  
174 High Street, Boston, Mass.

### POPULAR GOODS—POPULAR PRICES.

### Matthews' New Universal

Approved HAND SEEDERS AND CULTIVATORS. Sows and covers in one operation. Sows and covers in one operation. Sows and covers in one operation.

Star Pattern Planter and Fertilizer. It is the latest, and it drops at twelve different distances.

FARM CARTS, Two Wheel and Four Wheel.

AMES FLOW CO., 108 MARKET ST., BOSTON, MASS.

vator is set so it will make a trench about eight or ten inches wide and four to five inches deep, and run over the marks for rows. The light soil is then sowed in this trench, either with drill or by hand, then the cultivator teeth are reversed and roller attached and the soil is thrown back into trench, covering the fertilizer, and the two front teeth mix it, and roller levels the soil for setting plants. This gives us the Light Soil Manure (seven per cent. ammonia) directly under the plants where we get the benefit of all the fertilizer at once. The potash and phosphoric acid, supplied so largely by the broadcasting of the Complete Manure (ten per cent. potash), and also by the Complete Manure, Light Soil, are gradually fed to plants as they make growth, and their roots reach out, covering the ground completely. We find that the more quickly we can get our plants rooted and pushed out early in season, the better they will stand the changes later on of drought and heavy rains.

"In some seasons fine celery can be grown with the Mapes Complete Manure (ten per cent. potash) alone. We have had good results with it on dry ground this year, but your Complete Light Soil, in combination with it, as last stated, is in our judgment a better combination than to use either alone. "I would not be afraid to set plants in the Complete Manure, Light Soil, thoroughly cultivated in at the rate of even three thousand pounds per acre on moist ground.

"We find that it pays to use liberal quantities of fertilizers, and even on our 'muck' ground, which is only decayed vegetation, the more soluble ammonia and nitrogen used (of course in connection with ample supplies of phosphoric acid and potash), the better the quality of the crop and the larger amount of profit to us."

This is only one instance of profitable culture; there are many others given in the pamphlets published and mailed free to any of our readers by the Mapes Company. Thus during the past few years Messrs. George M. Hewlett & Co., of Merriell, L. I., have been increasing their acreage in asparagus until it is now one of the important crops on the farm. Their soil is well suited to the production of fine "grass," and they grow it to perfection. Some of their stalks are of mammoth size, and yet so tender that they can be eaten to the very end. Nothing is ever used on the asparagus except fertilizer. Many growers are troubled greatly by asparagus rust, but Messrs. Hewlett & Co. have not met with serious loss. They think that the heavy and constant use of fertilizer year after year has done much to keep their crop healthy and sound. This agrees with the opinion of many observing farmers who feel sure that the best way to keep any plant healthy and strong is to keep it constantly supplied with an abundance of soluble plant food adapted to its varied needs.

A large truck farmer of Charleston, S. C., grows potatoes, cabbage, beans, strawberries and cucumbers on a very large scale. He reports that on one piece of eighteen acres of potatoes he had 2300 barrels, 305 bushels to the acre, good quality. Was delighted with the results. They sold at good prices. He has been a constant user for more than twenty years. Just bought fifty tons of the Potato Manure and paid cash for it before it was received in Charleston. The "Mapes Topdresser, Improved" is unsurpassed in value and quick action for parks, lawns, meadows and the like. Growers of choice market fruits and vegetables use this liberally, and with highly profitable results. As the most interesting farm literature, send at once to "The Mapes Formula and Peruvian Guano Company," No. 143 Liberty Street, New York, for descriptive pamphlets, sent free by mail to any applicant among our readers.

## Making the Young People Work.

If it be really a fact that the polygamists Mormons make their families support them, the boast of President Smith that he felt obliged to care for and live with the members of his five households, even after polygamy had been declared unlawful, seems to have little weight. It is said, with what truth we have no means of knowing at present, that the usual practice of a Mormon is to let his children do all the work on the farm upon which he exists in idleness whenever it suits his lordly pleasure, and that the reason he still clings to his plural families is a good deal like that of the drunken father who liked to see the young ones work, though he did no labor himself. With regard to the admission of Mr. Smoot we have nothing to say, for he is apparently not a polygamist. Utah is a State of the Union, and if he was legally elected he may be entitled to his place, but this does not mean that we should shut our eyes to the evils of polygamy and allow it to spread to other territory outside of Utah, on the ground of religious tolerance. If a man is a bigamist in Massachusetts he goes to prison, and what is sauce for the Bay State gander ought to be sauce for the Mormon one.

## Among the Farmers.

That which pays the average farmer and everybody is strict honesty in all dealings. —H. G. McGowan, Geiger Mills, Pa. I have been in the habit of putting the horse manure at night in the trench behind the cows and allowing that to absorb the urine. Then when thrown out with the cow manure it warms up and strengthens that, so that the mixture is much more valuable than either alone. —A. P. Sparrett, Knox County, Mo.

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## Our Homes.

## The Workbox.

**Yoke Cape Crocheted.**  
Material—Six skeins of cream white, 3 skeins of color. Shell and floor: 1 bone hook No. 6. Ribbon No. 5, one-half yard. With the colored yarn double make a chain of 100 stitches. Work back in double crochet or slipper stitch.

On the next row work 21 double crochet; increase in the next by putting 3 stitches in 1; work 1 double crochet in each of next 4 stitches; increase in next stitch as before; work 1 double in each of next 50 stitches; increase in the next stitch; work 1 double in each of the next 4 stitches; increase in the next stitch; 1 double in each of next 21. Continue working back and forth with double crochet (always working into back part of stitch to form rib), increasing in the middle of the 3 extra stitches, every row, until you have 36 stitches between the windings of shoulders. This completes the yoke.

Now with white yarn single chain of 3 and work a treble into each of the first 4 stitches; into the fifth make shell of 4 treble with chain in the center; 4 single treble, 1 shell, 4 treble, 1 shell, all the way across.

2d row—Same as first, but work your treble around those in the former row, making shell as usual, putting the stitches into the center of the shell in former row; work back and forth in this manner, making 14 rows of white.

One row of color, making 6 stitches in each shell.

Two rows of white, making 6 stitches in each shell.

Two rows of color, making 6 stitches in each shell.

One row of white, making 6 stitches in each shell.

Three rows of color, making 6 stitches in each shell.

Finish with shell and point edge of white around cape, and row of trebles around yoke to run in ribbon. EVA M. NILES.

## Bedtime Lunches.

Physicians advise a bedtime lunch for nervous and emaciated people. The long hours of sleep consume about one-third of our existence. Although the demand made upon the system is naturally much less than during the waking hours, there is a wasting away of tissues consequent upon the suspension of nutriment for many hours. The body feeds upon itself, for food taken at dinner is digested at bedtime. Often one is restless and wakeful at night the stomach is empty.

Onions are an excellent and harmless soporific. Eaten raw at bedtime, sliced thin and spread upon bread and butter, with a pinch of salt added to make them more palatable, they have cured insomnia where many high-sounding and possibly harmful remedies have failed.—Household Ledger.

## Care of the Baby.

I read lots of nonsense about babies. The latest is endless ways to keep a restless child covered at night. One gave the advice to cover the whole crib with a heavy comforter. If any try that, I expect they will find a smothered baby in the morning; but, at best, one would find a fevered child. Such treatment is not human. Healthy children that are comfortable will keep well and quiet. If they are restless, there is a cause; remove the cause and you will have no more trouble.

It may be they are overtired, or that they did not have enough water. Sometimes they do not have enough salt, but more times cold feet are the cause of sleeplessness. A hot-water bottle is the ideal remedy for this, but a small flatiron or freestone well warmed will do.

If they want to keep their small arms out put on a flannel sack and let them do as they please. Plan things so as to make the least fuss, not only for yourself, but everybody else.

Nothing equals spotted muslin for a baby's dress. It is easy to wash, does not mangle easily and looks fairly well if not ironed. Baby's diapers should never be ironed, being much less of a conductor of heat when rough dry, and consequently healthier. Don't use powder. Any of the many brands of vaseline or cold cream are much better. A healthy baby that is well used never frets, and needs less attention than a pet cat usually gets.

Sounds like some old maid's notion? "Well, I have eight healthy, happy children of my own, and just the sweetest granddaughter that anybody has, so it seems to me I have some experience to base my opinions on."

Nowadays there is some artificial device for every defect, and one of the nicest is the nipple shield. Some nipples lose their terrors, and even the lack of nipples are happily bridged over, to the comfort and health of both baby and the mother.

Lemons are one of the best of medicines and cure a sore throat almost like magic. The juice may be used clear or with sugar. It may be used full strength or diluted one-half with water—hot or cold. Lemons employed freely, it is said, will prevent typhoid fever.

CORA MORSE.

## Treatment of Floors.

The treatment of floors has become a matter of taste and convenience instead of style. Many of the finest homes have hardwood floors, stained or varnished, and partly covered with rugs. This is preferable to carpets that cover the entire floor, for the rugs may be taken out of doors and cleaned once a month, or often if the room is used constantly, and the floor mopped before they are brought back. A space of eighteen inches or more all around the room is left bare or covered with matting.

If you have a hard-wood floor that is in good condition, the task of oiling it is easy. Many who have old soft-wood floors have had a floor of hard pine put down on top of it. The stain that is bought already prepared is not expensive, and is usually preferred to one that has been mixed at home, and you can get oak, walnut, maple or mahogany color. A light or medium shade will wear better than a very dark one. It is put on with a paint brush, and a more even and durable color is obtained by applying several thin coats than one thick one. As a rule, a quart of stain covers fifteen square yards of floor, but the amount required varies with the condition of the floor to which it is applied. After staining, it may be oiled or varnished.

If you prefer the natural color of the wood, give it two coats of boiled linseed oil applied cold, and allow each coat plenty of time to dry. Of course the floor should be perfectly clean before you begin, for any spot that is not removed before the oil is applied is fixed and cannot be washed off afterward. A good coat of varnish gives a handsome effect to the floor of bedroom or parlor if put on after the oil has dried in. Or, if preferred, they may be finished with

a wax preparation, which may be bought at any drug store and rubbed on the floor with a flannel cloth, then polished to give it luster.

The care of stained or oiled floors is very simple, in fact, that is one of its many merits. Wiping it once or twice a month with a cloth wrung out of warm, soft, water containing a little borax, will remove the dust, and leave it as fresh and bright as ever. Soap should not be applied to an oiled or painted surface, and it is not needed, for the borax cleanses it without injury.

The piazza floor should be oiled every spring, for there is nothing that preserves wood that is exposed to the elements so well as a coat of oil. Three coats should be applied on successive days, and after this a coat given every two months will still further protect the wood. E. J. C.

## To Cure for Lemps.

Never touch the chimney of a lamp with water. A few drops of kerosene oil will remove the smoke and dimness, and a rub with soft flannel or chamois skin will result in a clear polish.

Clean every bit of the burner with a rag dipped in kerosene, and polish it dry and bright. Boil very dirty, neglected burners in soda and water.

See that the outside of the lamp is dry, clean and perfectly free from oil after being filled. Each day rub off the burnt portion of the wick with a duster; do not cut the wick.

Do not fill a lamp to the brim.

Do not let a lamp burn after the oil is exhausted or turn it down. Nearly the same amount of oil is consumed when the flame is full, what is not burnt passing off in the form of gas, which is often smelt when entering a room where the lamp has been turned low.

A bit of camphor the size of a hazelnut put into the oil reservoir improves the light. Empty and wash the reservoir every few weeks to prevent the collection of sediment from the oil.

Soak new wicks in vinegar, and dry thoroughly before putting in the burner.

## Threading Needles.

My mother's sight has failed so that threading a needle is a task almost beyond her. After an absence from home I learned that a young friend having seen her difficulty had helped her over this little obstacle by threading her needle. She simply took the spool of thread and paper of needles and, without breaking the thread, threaded the whole paper of needles as one would string beads. When a needleful of thread was desired, all that was necessary was to take the first needle, draw off as long a thread as desired, fasten the outside needle to the spool and leave it ready for next time.—Good Housekeeping.

## Oil the Joints of Your Umbrella.

A former peddler, now a rich insurance man, stood in a sheltered corner during a big storm and watched the umbrellas go to pieces as the wind hit them full force. "Probably all those umbrellas are wrecks because of the lack of a little oil," he said. "That's a trick I learned as a peddler. An umbrella is primarily a thing of joints, and to keep it in good condition the joints should be oiled. I found that nearly all umbrellas break in the joints first, and why shouldn't they? The joints are never oiled, and yet are expected to respond easily to sudden opening. To get the best use out of an umbrella the joints should be oiled first with coal oil or kerosene, to clean off the rust, and then with a lubricating oil to make them work easily. Thus treated an umbrella's framework will last indefinitely.—Wilkesbarre Leader.

## To Sleep Correctly an Art.

There is a good deal more in the art of sleeping correctly than one might suppose. A comfortable night's rest depends upon a soft bed for one thing. The bed should be soft enough to yield to every muscle of the body. If there is an aching spot, the bed should not be hard enough to hurt it.

A feather bed was not without its advantages. Indeed, in these days, feather beds would do a great deal toward banishing insomnia.

There are many people whose nerves are so delicate that the body cannot rest comfortably at night in the ordinary bed. Each nerve seems strained, and the slightest movement awakens the sleeper. Once awake, it is not easy to go to sleep again.

Feather beds for invalids are good things; also for brain workers, and for all who get very tired every day.

The trouble with the feather bed, the great objection to it, is that it is difficult to renovate it. The second objection is its heating qualities. In a house that is kept too hot in winter the body would be heated beyond endurance by a feather bed.

But if the restless sleeper will get a thin bed of feathers or of down and will keep it well shaken up and will sleep in a moderately cool room, then the first step toward the banishing of insomnia will be taken.

The second step comes in the finding of the correct pillows.

There is no one general rule to be laid down on the pillow question. Brain workers and all full-blooded people should sleep with the head high.

It is positively injurious to sleep with the blood rushing into the brain. Rush of blood to the head will cause headache, and many persons are made ill by no greater thing than sleeping with the head too low.

Those who have been sleeping with the head flat should try the plan of lifting it gradually. At first the neck will be uncomfortable, but soon it will be a habit to sleep with the head raised.

If you are a light sleeper, and most people are at some time or other have trouble getting to sleep, you may try the pillow cure. This calls for soft pillows, of two sizes. One is to rest under the head and the other is to make the neck comfortable.

The rule is to make your neck comfortable when you go to sleep. "Make your head as easy as you can. Then make your neck comfortable," was the advice given by a London physician to an insomnia patient.

"If you go to sleep with the neck unsupported you will not sleep long," said a physician to a New York banker. "After your head is comfortable, begin and prop up your neck."

Place a small pillow under it, twist and turn the corners of your pillow, and keep on until your head is perfectly supported. Then fall asleep, and you will sleep until morning.

A great many women and men, too, sleep better sitting up in a chair than in a bed. "The reason," said a physician, "is that the neck is supported better when they are sleeping in that way."

But before she goes to sleep the woman who wants to be pretty will compose her features. She will try to think of pleasant things. The woman who goes to sleep worrying will wake up during the night.



TYPICAL ONTARIO FARMSTEAD.

See article, "Successful Ontario Farming."

Pleasant thoughts will make a sound sleeper.

Here is another rule for the woman who wants to sleep so nicely and wake up pretty: Don't go to bed until you are sleepy. The rule of going to bed at ten o'clock, whether you are sleepy or not, makes an insomnia patient out of an otherwise healthy person.

A woman afflicted with insomnia went to a physician for a cure. "I go to bed every night at ten o'clock," said she, "and I wake at three. From that time until six I lie awake. Then I sleep an hour very heavily."

"Try going to bed at twelve o'clock for a while," said the physician.

A week later the woman came to his office with beaming face and bright eyes. "I have tried your remedy," said she, "and it worked. I go to sleep at twelve and sleep like a top until seven. I find that I did not need more than seven hours sleep."

"That," said the physician, "has cured half the insomnia patients in this country. There are people who need nine hours sleep a night, and others that do not need over seven. It is all a matter of personal idiosyncrasy."

Prepare yourself slowly and comfortably for bed. Do not go to bed until you are sleepy. And then make yourself perfectly easy. These are the rules for getting a good night's rest.

The woman who counts sheep jumping over a wall in the hope of getting sleep will find relief in this way. The man who says the alphabet, the nervous woman who cannot keep her mind off the house, and the head of the family whose affairs disturb him to the point of distraction—all of these will find that sleep is not so far away if only they know how to woe it hither.—New York Sun.

## Cake Secrets.

"There are secrets and secrets involved in the making of good cake," said the principal of the New England School of Cookery, while she arranged a table for a cake lesson. First of all one requires certain utensils, not so very many, but just the ones that are the best for certain uses. Here they are: A yellow mixing bowl, deep enough and narrow enough at the bottom to allow the beating spoon to do its work thoroughly. The beating spoon deserves a sentence by itself. Get a wooden spoon with a slitted bowl, it costs only five cents. I suspect it was not a woman who patented this spoon, or it would have had a short handle, instead the handle is so long that it constantly hits one's elbow. I cut off four or five inches, then it is just right. The end of this short handle held in one's hand means expeditious beating. The other utensils I use are two measuring cups; one for dry ingredients, the other for liquids; a teaspoon, a flour-sifter, a palette knife, a Dover egg-beater with a breakfast cup which is the best sized bowl I know for beating the egg yolks, and a good sized platter with a wire whisk for beating whites of eggs to a stiff froth. Nothing more is required now for cake making, except the pans, and a butter brush with melted butter to oil them.

Of course there are the ingredients, which, to produce fine cake, must be as good as the market will provide and the purse allow. It is impossible to make nice cake when poor cooking butter and stale eggs are used, the strongest vanilla extract will not do much good. Besides good butter and eggs, have pastry flour, first-class baking powder, good granulated sugar and a flavoring that stands at the head of its class.—Good Housekeeping.

## How the Doctor Cured His Sweetheart.

Somewhere upon British soil there is a young doctor who has within the last few days learned a lesson which should be invaluable to him in his future practice. Having accompanied his betrothed to a theatre, while the house was in semi-darkness she suddenly complained of feeling faint. The doctor took something out of his pocket and whispered to her to keep the "tablet" in her mouth, but not to swallow it. She did as she was told, and soon felt all right again. The tablet, however, showed no signs of dissolving, and in the end, being curious to discover what the tasteless, indissoluble substance that had proved so efficacious could be, she slipped the undissolved substance into her glove for future inspection. When she got home she took it out of her glove again and examined it. It was a bone glove button.—London Leader.

## Domestic Hints.

**PURGE OF PARTRIDGE, A LA DESTAING.**  
Pound in a mortar the bones of a partridge and half a pint of puree of chestnuts. Put the whole into a saucepan, and moisten with three pints of white broth, one ounce of butter and a half tablespoonful of salt and a teaspoonful of pepper. Boil for ten to fifteen minutes; then rub through a wire sieve, adding about an ounce more butter and three tablespoonfuls of cooked rice just before serving.

**BUTTERMILK BREAD.**  
For three good-sized loaves use one quart of sour buttermilk, one generous tablespoonful of sugar, one tablespoonful of butter, one teaspoonful of soda and 2½ quarts of flour. Heat the buttermilk to the boiling point, stirring it frequently to prevent curdling. Put the sugar in a large bowl and pour the hot milk into it. Now gradually sift into this mixture a quart of flour, stirring all the while. Beat well, then cover and let it stand in a warm room over night. In the morning dissolve the soda in three tablespoonfuls of water, and add it to the batter, together with the salt and butter, melted. Beat thoroughly; then gradually beat in the remainder of the flour, reserving the board with flour, and, turning the dough upon it, knead for fifteen or twenty minutes. Divide into three parts, and shape into loaves. Place in buttered pans, and put into the oven immediately. Bake for one hour in a hot oven.

**POTATO MUTTON CHOPS.**  
Cut some nice chops or steak from the best part of the neck of mutton. The loin will be better still. Trim off all the fat, but leave a small part of the bone visible, nicely scraped. Season with pepper and salt and fry in dripping. Have ready plenty of mashed potato, with which

cover the chops separately, so that they will be completely wrapped in the potato. Glaze with beaten egg and brown with a salamander, or, lacking the salamander, brown lightly in the oven.—What To Eat.

## ORANGE CUSTARD.

Beat the yolks of five eggs, strain them, then put to them one spoonful of brandy, the peel of an orange boiled and beat to a paste, sugar to the taste, beat these together; stir this into full pint of cream that has been boiled, and is cold; scald all together over the fire, stirring it; take it off, stir it till cold, put it into cups, set them into an earthen dish; pour hot water into it; when they are set, stick citron into them.

## BAKED APPLE DUMPLINGS.

Peel and core as many apples as you wish to use. As your appetite varies with the weather, six or eight—perhaps a dozen—That would be a generous dish. Make a dough like cracker biscuit, Roll it thin, with skill and care; Place an apple lightly on it, Take your apple from the oven, Large enough to hold your fruit in, Then within the vacant place Of the core a bit of butter, Cinnamon and sugar place, Draw your square up well together, Pinch it gently on the top, So your dough will be protected, Lest the cooking juices pour, When your apples are all covered, Take a fork and prick them through; 'T will prove better in the baking—Has dozen times will do. Bake them slowly, and, while cooking, Take of sugar just a cup And a modest lump of butter, And with light hand cream them up, Adding extract and your hard sauce, Set on ice to harden more; Lift your apples from the oven, And your labors will be o'er, Serve them hot—the sauce adds flavor, And each dumpling, hard and brown, Is a practical achievement—Add a jewel to your crown.—Modern Stories.

## Hints to Housekeepers.

One of Washington's most charming hostesses, who is renowned for her delightful dinner parties, was asked recently what the secrets for success. "There are certain rules regarding dinner parties," she replied, "that if followed more closely would assure success and pleasure to the function. For my part, I seldom entertain more than six at one time, and then choose my guests with care and strive to seat them with discretion. I remember very well how my mother used to manage such affairs and recalling her success, have adopted her methods. 'Never overtax your strength or your purse,' I have heard her say, 'and if you can serve a four-course dinner perfectly and six or eight-course dinner with an effort, by all means plan for the first. Again, consider the limitations of your chef, and don't aspire to red head cook when the ways of roast beef are better understood.' Very good advice I have found it to be, too, and there you have my secrets. Of course," concluded the matron, "we will forgive anything so long as a woman can make a meal pass pleasantly. At such times we don't want wonderful characters. We want people who are civil at dinner, and it's our business to secure them."—Washington Post.

Sweet potato pie is a favorite Southern dessert, and is not unfamiliar to Northern tables. Use the best potatoes, boil and pass through a sieve. Beat together three eggs and a cupful of sugar, a cupful of softened butter not melted, and a cupful of rich milk or cream. Add to this the potato. Bake slowly. This pie, of course, has no upper crust.

When sponges are very foul, wash them in diluted tartaric acid, rinsing them afterwards in water; it will make them very soft and white.

The prettiest cage for a small bird is of brass, with a broad band of brass wire netting around the lower portion. It is supplied with a dainty drinking cup and platter and a bathtub in which the bird may take his morning plunge. A canopy will be satisfied with one swinging and one stationary perch, but a mocking bird requires five or six perches and quite a large cage. Stands for parrots vary in elaborateness from a plain zinc tray, with its complement of cups and perches, to a gorgeous tray of brass or lacquered ware, standing midway a brass rod, that is topped by brass perches and richly ornamented drinking cups. A fancy chain is there to hold Poll to her rod, and a brass cage can be fitted on top of the whole. The stand resembles one belonging to a piano, and the same stands, with curved top and hood, are made to hang small bird cages from. Some cages have glass slides about the outer tray to keep water from splashing on the floor. Little traveling cages with flap lids are among the novelties.

The shine that so often disfigures garments made of silk and satin, and especially of the reduced by rubbing it with a piece of soft silk that has been warmed. Try holding a silk handkerchief before the fire and then rubbing the spot with it.

To cook eggs in the shell through evenly put them into a deep pan, cover them with boiling water, and let them stand for five minutes, or more where the water will keep just below the boiling point. This prevents the albumen from coagulating, but jellies both white and yolk, making the egg more appetizing in appearance than when at the ordinary "soft-boiled" stage. It takes the same time as ordinary cooking.

Individual chop planks are one of the innovations. They are large enough for two chops and have an indentation in the centre which catches the escaping juice of the meat while cooking.

## Fashion Notes.

"This is the season of millinery openings. Of course, New York openings are at least a month earlier than others, partly because buyers come to New York in numbers soon after the first of January, and partly because the New York woman, wants early fashion hints and is willing to buy far in advance of the season. The number of people who spend the winter end in the South increases every year, according to the imports. It is now a regular part of the year's routine to furnish Florida and Georgia outfits."

"Just why hats should be exhibited, and presumably purchased, so far in advance of other wearing apparel, is not very clear. That they are, is not to be disputed. The first crop of ready-to-wear hats appears very soon after the holidays, and by March all the good shops have blossomed out with picture hats, flowers and ribbons in real summer profusion."

"Of course, only general ideas of what is to be worn are indicated as early as this. Nothing very new and startling is to be seen either in shapes or decorations. It is perfectly plain that great latitude is to be allowed in the matter of shapes. Small hats, medium hats and big picture shapes are shown side by side. The hats that belong exclusively to the summer of 1904 will hardly be small, however. The newest Napoleon and other three-cornered creations are to be added to spread, while the typical large hat is actually a cart wheel. The curtains and veils of

lace with which the latter is adorned add to its apparent size, while the Pompadour garlands sweeping feathers, and long bows and ends of velvet ribbons suggest large spaces. There will probably be some modification of these hats before the season is much older."

"A typical picture hat is a broad shepherdess shape made of baby blue embroidered tulle over plain tulle. It has a facing of Valenciennes lace laid in fine flat ruffles. The embroidered tulle is shaded over the crown and brim, and droops over the edge of the latter, slightly in front, generously in the back. A wreath of exquisite forget-me-nots, pale blue warmed with a little pink, makes a band around the crown. On either side is a rosette of the flowers and of moss green velvet ribbon. The ribbon falls in long bows and ends in the back."

"A similar shape is covered with white point d'esprit shirred over pink bands. The drapery is on very much the same lines, and the hat is trimmed with several garlands of small pink roses. The facing is of fancy straw, pure white."

"What is known as the 'Baby hat' is a big picture shape, covered with ruffles or frills of white Valenciennes. One of these was admired at a Broadway opening. It was made of lace two inches wide, and its only trimming was an Alsatian bow of pale blue ribbon with a Dresden pattern of rosebuds. On the bandeau of the hat was a half wreath of small pink roses."

"A few black and white hats and some lovely pastel colors are seen. One large hat illustrates the present popular combination of black and white lace. The foundation is black, and the entire crown is black lace shirred closely. Around the crown is a band of fancy black straw lace, studded with jet nail heads. The draped brim is of black over white lace. Two small white plumes trim one side of the hat, and there are the usual long velvet ends."

"Among the colors a charming hat of pale lilac straw had the brim draped in white lace and trimmed with most natural lilac sprays, with two or three Alsatian Beauty roses. A touch of lilac velvet completed the trimming."

"On the smaller hats a Napoleon shape deserves notice. It was in a fine Milan straw, pure white, and trimmed with hunter's green velvet folds. A Pompadour garland of white roses crossed the front point of the hat and was carried underneath the brim to the back, where a shower of green stems and buds fell over the hair. The description hardly conveys an adequate idea of the grace and simplicity of the arrangement. Another small hat, a boat-shaped turban this time, was remarked for the richness of its coloring, green and blue, like a peacock's tail. The crown was of blue and green melange straw, the blue predominating. Around the crown the straw was arranged in hollow medallions, and through these was passed bright green ribbon, while on the straw were fastened numbers of glass peacock buttons. There was a peacock egret on one side, this being the only trimming."

"A few sailor shapes are seen, some of them being decidedly eccentric in design and trimming. One narrow-brimmed hat of the stiff, manish shape, associated with English middle-class fashions, is trimmed hideously with a wreath of seaweed cherries, without a least or a bit of ribbon to relieve the hot mass of color. Some of the ugliest, expensive sailors are exhibited in men's hat stores where English styles are exploited, especially in the women's departments. One wonders who, among New York women, will buy them."

"Much prettier and a dozen times more becoming, are the oval-shaped sailors, longer from side to side than from front to back. This year's models are very short backed, or else are turned up sharply in the back. Such a hat is illustrated in a brown straw, having a border of brown. Brown velvet ribbon is looped around the crown, and the back is fastened up with the velvet and a handsome gold skeleton buckle. A row of blue forget-me-nots is laid flat on the edge of the brim, and a little farther up is a second row of pink forget-me-nots."

"A little toque for evening wear attracted attention. It seemed to be made of loose rose petals, caught in a cloud of white tulle. The petals were not very close together, and were carefully grouped. A cluster of pink roses trimmed the side of the toque."

"Close inspection of many beautiful gowns on view everywhere reveals that their seeming ornateness is a matter of trimming rather than cut. In fact, gowns are being made on very simple lines, but the surface of the goods is consistently ornamented with a wealth of lace insets, embroidery, etc., so that the gown seems to be a mass of ornamentation. Everything leans to a predominance of the robe gown, and, in fact, the trimming just described makes the robe almost a common necessity. It would be difficult to supply the demand for individual costumes at a moderate price in any other way. Not that they are cheap, according to modest estimates, but if made by a dressmaker they would certainly cost double the price asked in the shop. One of these gowns is of sheer white linen, and has a double skirt embroidered lightly with solid embroidery and a little open-work design. Each skirt is finished with an edge of solid white lace. About the hips is a narrow applied band of shirred carried rather high in the back. The waist is almost ready to wear, requiring only to be fitted and the seams joined. A seamstress could easily manage it, and therein lies the real economy of these robe gowns. A shirred round yoke is finished with a shirred band to match the one on the skirt, and below it falls a rather flounce of the embroidery, edged with the tinted lace. There is a touch of embroidery also in the front of the waist. The sleeves are composed of one large puff and a pointed ruffle, lace trimmed.—N. Y. Evening Post.

## The World Beautiful.

Lillian Whiting, in Boston Budget.  
"We have a debt to every great heart, to every fine genius; to those who have put life and fortune on the cast of an act of justice; to those who have added new sciences; to those who have refined life by elegant pursuits. 'T is the fine souls who serve us, and not what is called fine society. Fine society is only a self-protection against the vulgarities of the street and the vulgarities of the common acceptance, has neither ideas nor aims. It renders the service of a perfume, or a laundry, not of a farm or factory. 'T is an exclusion and a precinct. Sydney Smith said: 'A few yards in London cement or dissolve friendship.' It is an unprincipled decorum; an affair of clean linen and coaches, of gloves, cards, and elegance in trifles. There are other measures of self-respect for a man, than the number of clean shirts he puts on every day. Society wishes to be amused. I do not wish to be amused. I wish that life should not be cheap, but sacred, and demands of the centuries, loaded, fragrant."—Emerson.

The entire conduct of life is determined by its relationships. Social enjoyments and society are in no sense synonymous, and "fine society" is not, as Emerson intimates, by any means exclusively composed of "fine souls." The range of sympathetic companionships that can be so designated are of the order that make paradise on earth and that enables one to lead the heavenly life, now and here, if he is blessed with this supremest of all gifts. But to enter into this exaltation of blessedness presupposes a high degree of spiritual development. If presupposes that culture of mind and heart which holds life "not cheap, but sacred," and demands of the days that they be perpetual landmarks in the onward progress of the soul.

Into this progress all varieties of experience enter and hold sway. The ministry of sorrow, of disaster, of defeat, is a theme which has invited contemplation through all the centuries, and it is yet possible that the world has hardly yet entered on its deepest significance. There is an evident analogy between nature and development and progress of the spiritual life. The seed is first buried in the ground and darkness and isolation are the conditions under which it germinates, then it sends down its roots deeper into the earth before it begins to shoot upward, to rise above the cold and darkness of the ground and live a new life in light and air. St. Paul images this great principle of universal life in the

most vivid and forcible language. "That which thou sowest," he says, "is not quickened unless it die." And again, "That which thou sowest, thou sowest not that which shall be but bare grain, but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased Him." This wonderful analogy, though applied to the resurrection of the spiritual body from the physical and temporal body, has also an even wider message. It is equally true of all purposes, all aims, all aspirations. They are not quickened except they die. They die in apparent disaster and defeat; they rise again transformed into new beauty and greater power. The noblest aspirations and endeavors may often be seen to be "sown in corruption" and "raised in incorruption," "sown in dishonor" and "raised in glory," "sown in weakness" but "raised in power." The noblest purposes of life are almost invariably tested and developed by such experiences as these. The work that is the expression of sympathy, gentleness, good-will, and genuine devotion to all that makes for righteousness is by no means invariably sure to prosper. It is more likely to encounter adverse conditions, and the problem as to why that which is good should seem to be overcome by that which is evil, presents itself with baffling force. But St. Paul supplies the solution. It is "not quickened except it die." Death is the temporary condition into which, and through which, it passes. After that it is "quickened." After that it is all aflame with a deeper vitality, a more intense power. Let no one turn away in despair from the losses and crosses he encounters in the line of his highest endeavors. We find Emerson saying: "Supply, most kind gods! this defect in my address, in my form, in my forces, which puts me a little out of the ring; supply it, and let me be like the rest whom I admire, and on good terms with them. Let the wise gods say, No, we have better things for thee. By humiliations, by defeats, by loss of sympathy, by gulfs of disparity, learn a wider truth and humanity than that of a fine gentleman. A Fifth-avenue landlord, a West-end householder, is not the highest type of man; and, though good hearts and sound minds are of no condition, yet he who is to be wise for many, must not be protected. He must know the huts where poor men lie, and the chores which poor men do. The first-class minds, Homer, .Esop, Socrates, Alfred, Cervantes, Shakespeare, Franklin, had the poor man's feeling and mortification. A rich man is never insulted in his life; but this man must be stung. A rich man was never in danger from cold, or hunger, or war, or ruffians, and you can see he was not, from the moderation of his ideas. 'T is a fatal disadvantage to be cockered, and to eat too much cake. What tests of manhood could he stand? Take him out of his protections. He is a good book-keeper; or he is a shrewd adviser in the insurance office; perhaps he could pass a college examination, and take his degree; perhaps he could give wise counsel in a court of law. Now plant him down among farmers, freemen, Indians, and emigrants. Set a dog on him: set a highwayman on him; try him with a course of mobs; send him to Kansas, to Pike's Peak, to Oregon; and if he have true faith, this may be the element he wants, and he will come out of it with broader wisdom and manly power. .Esop, Saadi, Cervantes, Regnard, have been taken by corsairs, left for dead, sold for slaves, and know the realities of human life."



## Poetry.

## A WEATHER PROPHECY.

I don't shed my heavy clothes when the first warm zephyr blows  
Long in March, for I have learned a thing or two  
Bout our gran' New England weather, which, taken together,  
Doesn't seem to care what I would have it do.  
It doesn't pout to paint boatin' we're the first to plant.  
An' here's a fact you never should forget:  
When March gets overheated, don't you be too sure he's cheated,  
For he'll bluster round in April, you can bet.

II.  
Some farmers have a way which seldom seems to pay,  
Of rushin' seed into the cold, wet ground.  
Such grubbin' is an' spenst spurt; want spring up with a cent—  
I've bin through the mill an' that's jes' what I found.  
Even winter cuddles in the startled lap of Spring.  
Better hold yer hosses till things fume an' sweat;  
For the weather ott gits gay, an' March tumbles into May—  
Nature evens up her bizness, you can bet.

## III.

Don't think I'm such a chump, to advise you not to hump.  
To give yer seeds an' plants an' early set,  
But don't sow in a blunder, then have to plow it under—  
For that knucks a man skew—end—ways, you can bet.

JAMES D. KIMBALL  
Northampton, Mass.

## A CONFESSIO.

I've been down to the city, an' I've seen the 'lee' trice lights,  
The twenty-story buildin' an' the other stunnin' sights;  
I've seen the trolley cars a-rushin' madly down the street,  
An' all the place a-lookin' like a fairyland complete.  
But I'd rather see the big trees that a-growin' up to home,  
An' watch the stars a-twinklin' in the blue an' lofty dome;  
I'd rather hear the wind that goes a-singin' past the door,  
Than the traffic of the city, with its bustle an' its roar.

I reckon I'm peculiar, an' my tastes is kind o' low,  
But what's the use denyin' things that certainly is so?  
I went up to a concert, an' I heard the music there,  
It sounded like angelic harps a-floatin' through the air.  
Yet, spite of all its glory, an' the gladness an' acclaim,  
If I stopped to think a minute, I was homesick jes' the same;  
An' I couldn't help confessin', though it seems a curious thing,  
That I'd rather hear a robin sweetly pipin' in the spring.

—Washington Star.

## RELIGION.

Not to the swift, the race;  
Not to the strong, the fight;  
Not to the righteous, perfect grace;  
Not to the wise, the light.

But often faltering feet,  
Come surest to the goal;  
And they who walk in darkness meet  
The sunrise of the soul.

A thousand times by night  
The Syrian hosts have died;  
A thousand times the vanquished right  
Hath risen glorified.

The truth the wise men sought  
Was spoken by a child;  
The slabster box was brought  
In trembling hands defiled.

Not from my torch the gleam,  
But from the stars above;  
Not from my heart the light of gleam,  
But from the depths of love.

—Henry Van Dyke, in the Atlantic.

## THE JOY OF GOD.

I thank Thee, too, that Thou hast made  
Joy to abound;  
So many gentle thoughts and deeds  
Circling us round  
That in the darkest spot of earth  
Some love is found.

I thank Thee more that all our joy  
Is touched with pain;  
That shadows fall on brightest hours,  
That thorns remain;  
So that earth's bliss may be our guide,  
And not our chain.

For Thou, who knowest, Lord, how soon  
Our weak heart clings,  
Hast given us joys tender and true,  
But all with wings—  
So that we see, gleaming on high  
Diviner things.

—A. Proctor.

## THE ROOTS OF THINGS.

The roots, like miners, underneath the ground,  
Work out their lives in galleries dim and blind,  
Hurry aloft the treasure that they find,  
That boughs with gem-like blossoms may be crowned.

Bird courtiers thrill the boughs with merry sound,  
But down below, to their dark task resigned,  
The roots dream not what riches they have found,  
Appy to toil that beauty may abound.

Contented in the good that others reap,  
But shareless in the crowning of their toil,  
The cheery delvers of the underworld  
Thus softly sing and work while others sleep.

Got wot that there are souls that work like these—  
The brothers to the miners of the trees.

—Charles H. Crandall, in Cosmopolitan.

## THAT SUNDAY APPETITE.

It started to develop when I was a farmer lad,  
The folks were scarce at finding what an appetite I had.  
But I was kept from worry by the fact that all the rest  
Could keep the pace I set when I did my level best.

It reached its climax Sunday when we all were gathered in—  
Our Pa and Ma and Henry Clay and Sade and little Min,  
Besides your humble servant, who was there with all his might  
Prepared to do destruction with that Sunday appetite.

We'd eat a hearty breakfast—buckwheats, sausage, maple-drip.  
The weary wait till noontime seemed a long, half-finished trip.  
We'd then have biscuit, chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, too,  
With jellies, pickles and preserves—a lovely lot to chew.

We'd eat until our eyes stuck out, then gravely call for pie!  
To think of it I wonder that we didn't burst and die.

Then apples, turnips, walnuts, till the shades of coming night  
Drove all of us to supper with that Sunday appetite.

I have it yet, and so have you. You take your breakfast food  
And other little knick-knacks either boiled or fried or stewed;  
At two o'clock or thereabouts you wade into a feast  
And eat enough to last you for a fortnight, at the least.

You make a call—there's tea and cake of which you gamely munch.  
And when you get back home you say, "What is there, wife, for lunch?"

Now here's a guess—it's yours, to say if it be wrong or right:  
The father of Blue Monday is that Sunday appetite.

—Strickland W. Gillian, in New York Sun.

## Miscellaneous.

## Dorothy.

"Let's go back East, John."  
"Back East? Bless your soul, Mirandy, we ain't got enough to get us across the Rocky Mountains. Might as well talk of goin' to the moon as to old Massachusetts!"  
"Got enough to go in an ox team, haven't you?"  
"That would be too 'tarnel slow for me," said John. "Think I'd prefer a vestibule car to the Sunset Limited, an' if ever we go that's what we'll take."  
"Little odds 't would make to me how I went, or how I looked, if I could once get back," replied his wife, with an energetic toss of her head. "Lor' sakes, Mirandy! you seem to think there's no place on God's earth like old Massachusetts!"  
"Well, why shouldn't I when I was born an' brought up there? Many's the night I dream of the groves so cool an' still-like, the running brook, the shady lanes where the grass grew so green. Tell you what, John, you don't see anything like that in southern California, do you?"  
"Maybe not, but your New England climate can't hold a candle to this. The folks at home don't eat peas an' strawberries for their Christmas dinner, or have their doors an' windows open on a day in January!"  
"No, an' I'm glad they don't. 'Tain't the natural way of things. Many a time when I sit here sewin' I've wished for a good old-fashioned snowstorm, a howling blizzard, just to stir things up a little. There's Dorothy, doesn't even know what a snowstorm is, never sawed a sleigh-rider in her life or coasted down hill on a double runner."  
"She ain't pined for amusements all the same. Goes to more parties an' dances than you or I ever thought of in our day."  
"Yes, she's one that would enjoy herself most anywhere, even on a frontier. Her girl's missin' a good many things, John, an' I'd hate to think of her spendin' all her days here in Val Verde. It's as much on her account as my own I want to go back."  
"Well, just you keep a hopin' an' maybe there'll be a way provided one o' these days. Bad luck ain't goin' to follow us always, and with this the ever-sanguine John picked up his hat and left the room.

Mrs. Braynard paid little heed to her husband's remarks. She had heard their like too many times perhaps to derive much from them now in the way of consolation. Busy with her thoughts she pined the needle, half wondering while that Dorothy should be so late. She went out on the porch at length and sat down to rest there, where the amber sunlight shimmered through the tree and vine. Far down the valley she could see the ripening barley fields. Beyond stretched the broad, sun-kissed, wind-swept mesa. To the south, five miles away, was the town with its one school-house and church. A few unpicturesque houses that had never been painted looked out on Paradise Row—the principal residence street of this newly fledged town. And there was a Palace Hotel—unpretentious, to be sure, in all save its name—and last, but not least, a railroad station, where once a day the Overland through train stopped for her to come home, so he had told her; whereupon Dorothy had flashed one of her piquant glances, and accepted his escort, since it was pleasant to have some one to talk to, especially one like Hilton Meredith, the most agreeable man by far that had yet come to the path. Mrs. Braynard grew a trifle impatient the while, as she waited for Dorothy to bring in the mail. She had had a mind to call her, but no, it would not be necessary, for Meredith was lifting his hat now and turning his horse homeward. A moment later Dorothy came tripping up the walk, her face still wreathed in his happy smile. "You've been long enough gettin' home, I hope," said Mrs. Braynard.

"Oh, not so very long, but the road 's so dusty, you know, and we had to walk our horses more'n half the way."

"Well, you no need to stomp an' talked half an hour after you get here. For a 'feller' that's engaged to a girl back East, Hilton Meredith comes here altogether too often. First thing you know you'll get to likin' each other more'n you'd order."

"O, never fear for us! We're just the best of friends, that's all,—a sort of mutual consolation society," replied Dorothy, smilingly.

"I don't believe in them kind o' societies. 'T ain't safe for either of you. But where's the mail, Dorothy? Didn't you get any?"

"Yes, a letter from Aunt Hilda. Here it is," Mrs. Braynard hastily broke the seal. She had read but a few lines when the letter dropped from her hands.

"You ain't believe it?" she exclaimed.

"You ain't Hilda's comin' to visit us, is on her way already. Go tell your father to come right in an' hear the news."

With a bound Dorothy went rushing out to find Mr. Braynard—so excited and out of breath when she met him that she almost forgot to ring the bell. He looked up in open-eyed amazement. It needed only a few explanations for John to drop everything and go to the house, though, man-like, he took his own time in getting there. Aunt Hilda's coming became the all-absorbing topic of conversation. From that night forth sunny remarks were made by the two. Dorothy recognized her the moment she stepped out of the Overland, a tall lady in gray with keen dark eyes and resolute chin.

"This is Aunt Hilda, is it not?" said Dorothy, going up to her with outstretched hand. "I'm your niece—one of the California productions, as Pa calls me."

Mrs. Evanston took her in at a glance,—this tall slip of a girl in gingham dress and shade hat, but who, in spite of her simple attire, had a charm of her own, and did not look in the least like an unsophisticated rustic. The two kissed each other, and Aunt Hilda remarked something about California productions being all right, especially when they came from New England stock. Then John came up with the carriage, and the three rode out to the ranch where Dorothy had supper waiting. It seemed to Dorothy that she had never seen her mother quite as happy as she appeared that night. Aunt Hilda was certainly very entertaining, not at all dignified, unapproachable creature she had pictured in her thoughts.

"It's the next best thing to goin' back East," said John, here, Hilda," said Mrs. Braynard in one of her confidential talks, some few weeks later. "I've been pretty near dead with homesickness. Pioneer life never agreed with me, anyhow, though 't ain't so bad now as when we first came out here. John took up a hundred-acre tract across Government land, you know, an' set it out to barley an' vineyard, but 'twixt grass-hoppers an' drought he's had a pretty hard time of it. 'T was just all we could do to get enough money to send Dorothy off to school,—up at the Claremont Seminary,—but we managed after a fashion, an' proud enough we were the day she graduated, the prettiest girl in the whole lot of 'em, an' the smartest. How she keeps so bright an' cheery now she's back at the ranch is more'n I can account for. I've done my best to get her father to sell out. He's always waitin' though

for a better offer, thinks he's goin' to get a big price some day if they're ever lucky enough to strike artesian water. I tell him we've lived on prospects long enough, but John's that stubborn when he gets an idea of his own, that talkin' don't do a bit o' good, an' I 'spect he'll stick to the ranch till he loses his last cent."

"Well, you have my sympathies, Mirandy, but let's hope with John that things'll come out all right. In spite of his reverses he's always praisin' up California, I notice."

"Yes, an' he thinks I'm a bit cranky 'cause I don't rave as he does over the everlasting sunshine an' the flowers an' fruit. All very nice, to be sure, but I tell him things were good enough for me back in New England. The fact is, I want one of the kind that transplants an' agreed with an' there's never been a day when I wouldn't have been willin' an' glad to go back to the farm."

"How about Dorothy, would she like to go, do you think?" asked Mrs. Evanston.

"To be sure, if she ever had a chance."

"What do you say to my taking her home with me? A few years in the East would mean everything to a girl like Dorothy."

"Surprised was she at the unexpected offer. 'Take our Dorothy,' she faltered.

"Yes, she's too pretty to waste her sweetness on the desert air, an' it's time she saw some thing of the world. I could give her every advantage."

"I suppose you could, Hilda, but it's all so sudden, an' I haven't time to think it over yet."

"There'll be plenty of time for further consideration," said Mrs. Evanston. "Perhaps it would be best to let Dorothy decide for herself. And so it came about that a very momentous question was handed over for Dorothy Braynard's consideration. To this fair, young creature, eager for the latest diversion that came her way, it seemed a dream too glorious for reality. Had it not been for leaving the loved ones at home her decision would have been made in a moment: as it was she hesitated. But Aunt Hilda's wise counsel prevailed at last, and the news that Dorothy Braynard had been sent East spread from house to house throughout the settlement. Meredith heard of it at last. He was busy with his books there at the water company's office, and the news seemed to have interfered somewhat with rapid calculation and trial balance. But the spur of the moment dashed off a note to Miss Braynard, telling her she should be happy to call on the following Sunday, and if it suited her pleasure they would go for a drive to Dripping Springs. Evidently it suited Miss Braynard's pleasure, for on the following Sunday these two were seen riding along the quiet road, the sun shining on the hills. All nature seemed to smile that day. A golden haze rested over the valley, and the air was soft and balmy, rich with the odor of sage and blooming chaparral. Dorothy in her white dress and sunshade, and Hilton in his expressive face with its peach-blow coloring and soft brown eyes had held a subtle attraction for Meredith from the first. And when at Dripping Springs she threw off her hat and sat down on the mossy rocks in the shade of the yucca, where once a day the Overland through train stopped for her to come home, so he had told her; whereupon Dorothy had flashed one of her piquant glances, and accepted his escort, since it was pleasant to have some one to talk to, especially one like Hilton Meredith, the most agreeable man by far that had yet come to the path. Mrs. Braynard grew a trifle impatient the while, as she waited for Dorothy to bring in the mail. She had had a mind to call her, but no, it would not be necessary, for Meredith was lifting his hat now and turning his horse homeward. A moment later Dorothy came tripping up the walk, her face still wreathed in his happy smile. "You've been long enough gettin' home, I hope," said Mrs. Braynard.

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## Home Dressmaking.

Hints by Mary Hanson.



4683 Youth's Overall. 4684 Fancy Blouse.

10 to 16 years. 10 to 16 years.

## Youth's Overall. 4685.

The leg portions are large enough to allow of drawing over the trousers without being uncomfortably loose. The trousers are attached to the waist line, sized belt, but the back terminates at the waist line. Openings are provided at the sides, which button into place, and pockets are inserted in the front portions, while a patch pocket is attached to the right side of the back. Straps are sewed to the upper edge of the back which pass over the shoulders and are attached to the fronts by means of buttons and metal fasteners, and above the belt are supplied with a buckle, by means of which the length can be regulated; but these can be cut of the exact length and attached with buttons and buttonholes when preferred.

To cut these overall for a youth of 14 years of age 24 yards of material 27 inches wide or 24 yards 32 inches wide will be required.

The pattern, 4683, is cut in sizes for youths of 10, 12, 14 and 16 years of age.

## Fancy Blouse. 4684.

To be Tucked or Shirred Between Box Plaits and Skirt With or Without the Fitted Lining.

Box plaits combined with tucks or shirrings are among the novelties that are generally attractive as well as new. This pretty waist admits of either combination and is eminently graceful and smart. The model is made of pale blue muslin, with a white yoke and cuffs of cream lace, and is tucked between the plaits, but all of the soft and pliable materials of the season are appropriate and shirrings can be substituted for the tucks whenever preferred. The drop yoke and the deep gauntlet cuffs make noteworthy features, and the crushed belt is both fashionable and in harmony with the design. The back closes with a regulation box plait. The sleeves are cut in one piece each and are gathered into straight cuffs, but are tucked to fit the upper arm snugly.

The waist consists of the lining, the front and back which are arranged over it. The yoke is separate and is arranged over the waist after the sleeves are sewed in, the closing being made invisibly at the back edge of the yoke and beneath the box plait. The sleeves are the favorite ones of the season and form soft full puffs above the cuffs



## The Horse.

## Cure of a Shying Horse.

The dangerous vice of shying in horses almost invariably originates with genuine fear of certain sights or sounds, and it can be cured usually by carefully acquainting the horses with the objects that they fear. But there are two classes of horses that shy for no apparent reason, and unusual means must be taken to effect their cure.

In the first class are those which, having once obtained some advantage over the driver by shying, repeat the performance from pure mischief. It requires some experience to distinguish this affected fear from the real, but when there is no doubt of his "making believe" coercive measures are necessary.

In the other class are the most dangerous shyers. I refer to those horses which have become accustomed to the objects they once feared, so that they will usually pass them quietly, and yet will sometimes suddenly evince the original fear, and perhaps do considerable damage in their struggles to get away.

That the fear is real is evident to any experienced horseman, but why the horse should sometimes fear what he usually ignores is not so clear. The vice is particularly dangerous because the driver never knows when to expect its manifestation.

I have invariably found that the horses with this vice were nervous. I do not mean necessarily high strung or high spirited, although the vice is more frequent in well-bred horses than in those of colder blood.

After his outbursts of terror the nervous shyers usually quiet down promptly to his normal self. Such horses know the unreasonable of their conduct. They simply use their self-control.

The cure for nervous shyers is good, generous feed, accompanied by daily, unremitting work—the medicine which, time and again, has taken the nonsense out of men and women as well as horses, and which has cast out more devils than any other known agency in the world.

I do not mean overwork. But I have not known a nervous shyers that could not be cured by giving him all the work that he could perform without injury to his health. And the cure is permanent.

A most interesting case was furnished by a young mare called Alice that I owned some years ago. She was six years old when I bought her, and very well bred, although not thoroughbred. She was a fine, high-spirited roadster, and ordinarily was well behaved. But she was subject to unaccountable fits of nervousness. Sometimes, when standing in her own box stall, she would get uneasy, and move and paw and scrape till sweat ran off her in streams.

The mare was at first desperately afraid of electric cars, but with care and patience I soon had her entirely accustomed to them so that she would meet them quietly. But several times, when I least expected it, all her former fear suddenly returned and on one of these occasions, she broke the wagon and came so near to getting away from me that I decided upon the treatment I have indicated—plenty of work.

It was twenty miles from where I lived to the city, and I began to drive there with Alice harnessed to a light road wagon, instead of taking the train, as had been my wont. This, with the return trip, made forty miles a day, which Alice easily accomplished in two hours and a half each way.

I made this trip with her three times a week, on the average, meanwhile feeding her generously, so that she did not fall away in flesh or condition.

The result was a complete and permanent cure of her nervous shying and nervous excitement in the stable. When I believed the cure complete, I stopped driving her to the city, and used her as formerly, without recurrence of her trouble. In prescribing this treatment for nervous shyers I cannot urge too strongly that the object is not to punish the horse or to tire him out or to break his spirit, but simply to benefit his nervous system and to get it into a good, healthy and normal condition.—Youth's Companion.

## Good Care of Harnesses.

Now is the time to oil and repair the harness before the busy season begins. Take the harness to pieces and wash thoroughly with warm water and soap. It is important that the harness be clean before applying the oil. After washing let the harness dry; this can be hastened by rubbing with a dry cloth, then apply the oil while the leather is soft, but not too wet. The harness may be hung in the open air until the oil is absorbed.

Old, neglected harnesses that are dry and hard had better not be oiled; the fibres of the leather have lost their tensile, and oil will not restore it. Oil does not add to the strength of leather, it merely softens and keeps it from cracking. It is a preventative of decay, not a restorer. A well-oiled and repaired harness will last as long again as a neglected one. Durham, Ct. I. A. LEONARD.

## Maine Farmers Active.

The long severe winter has at last given place to the longer days and milder rays of March. In reviewing its vigorous reign, we can truly endorse the asseverations of weather experts that 1904 has broken the record for continuous snow and cold. Although overcasts, furs and mittens are still a necessary adjunct to out-of-door wear, yet some may even dare undertake the "barn chores" without the aid of the "barn chores."

It seems probable that the severe season of cold has put to flight some of the disease germs; for the general health of the community seems to have been, perhaps, more than usually favorable, with the exception of numerous attacks of pneumonia. Wood has naturally been a prime necessity. The households are not infrequently where four fires have been needed to keep house and cellar comfortable, and yet thousands of bushels of vegetables have been lost by freezing. Water pipes have been so badly frozen that the only way to reach the main was to dig through the snow and deeply frozen earth and depositing lime which was wet and covered to slant, and thus thaw the ice in pipes. Notwithstanding cold and snow, the enterprising inhabitants have kept a pass for the rural free delivery, so that we have each day received our mail.

Business in lumber has been quite active, and farmers have found considerable teaming to do in order to market potatoes, apples and other produce. Eggs and butter have been a paying investment and are still high priced.

We are hoping for an early spring, and as the "poor man's dressing" has been so plentiful, we hope for a season of fertility. A good many cows are kept and separators used; and both butter and cream sold. Flour is high and scarce. A few spring birds, and seedmen's teams are abroad in the land; harbingers of spring. M. A. H. LEACH.

## THE MAPES TOP-DRESSER, IMPROVED

Ammonia, 12 per cent.; Phosphoric Acid, 8 per cent.; Soluble Potash, actual, 4 per cent., free from chlorides.

The Most Soluble and Quickly Acting Fertilizer made. Insures rapid growth, with full vigor and highest quality of product. Especially useful on any backward crop or portion of a crop, from late planting, cold, backward season, drought, etc.

Composed of the very highest grades of soluble fertilizing materials, including Genuine Peruvian Guano, so treated as to render all the phosphoric acid practically soluble, without objectionable acidity, Nitrate of Soda, Sulphate of Ammonia, all blended into a soluble, complete manure containing many VARIED FORMS of the choicest and most soluble plant food ingredients.

To meet the demand, particularly among truckers, also for use on lawns, etc., for a soluble Top-Dresser, absolutely safe for application at any stage of growth, as well as to secure a more even and economical distribution, also to avoid all danger of caking, etc., this fertilizer is supplied ready mixed with equal weight of finely ground plaster and reduced to one-half strength.

Another important advantage of the plaster, Sulphate of Lime, is its beneficial effect in drought, as well as in the favorable effects of the lime contained, on the soil.

It is free from odor, clean and unobjectionable to handle. It is in the form of a fine, dry powder, easily and safely applied by hand, drill, or any seed sower.

## FOR PARKS, LAWNS, GRASS, GOLF LINKS, MEADOWS, Etc.

Especially adapted for use on Lawns, Parks, Golf Links, as a Top-Dresser at any stage of growth. Even on freshly cut lawns, 400 to 600 pounds per acre at a single application may be used with safety.

It is entirely unobjectionable on lawns near the dwelling. It is without odor, and so finely ground that it quickly disappears from sight after application as a Top-Dresser. Unlike cottonseed Meal, Nitrate of Soda or similar nitrogenous fertilizer, it is a complete fertilizer, developing strong, vigorous root development; healthy, hardy growth throughout the plants, greatly improving and sustaining the quality of the turf. The tendency of this fertilizer is to nourish all the finer grasses, and by developing strong growth with these, to drive out the weeds and such robber plants. Can be used also at seeding to grass.

For Potatoes, Irish and Sweet, Cabbages, Tomatoes, Spinach, Asparagus, Strawberry beds, all small fruits, all truck and garden vegetables, Melons, Cucumbers, Peas, Gherkins, Beans, Radishes, Beets, Carrots, Onions, Egg Plants, Sweet Corn, Tobacco and Lettuce. Specially adapted for Oats at seeding, 100 to 200 pounds per acre.

One of the largest and most successful growers of asparagus—who used in Spring of 1902 a few tons of this Top-Dresser—has ordered FIFTY TONS, FULL STRENGTH, for use this Spring.

Branch, 242 State Street,  
Hartford Conn.

THE MAPES FORMULA AND PERUVIAN GUANO CO.

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New York.

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Fitchburg Hardware Co., Fitchburg.  
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George Pease, Clifford.  
A. E. Brown, Bridgewater.  
Cutler Grain Co., South Framingham.

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Robert H. Clapp, Northampton.  
C. E. Slate & Son, Greenfield.  
Howard & Morrow, Pittsfield.  
J. H. Day, North Hadley.  
John Shea, 229 Lowell Street, Lawrence.  
William F. Fletcher, Southwick.  
Lyon Bros., Southampton.  
Charles F. Watts, Littleton Common.  
Lester R. Maynard, South Berlin.  
H. A. Keith, Sixteen Acres.  
W. F. Fillmore, Three Rivers.

Homer Bush, Westfield.  
G. G. Walker, Williamstown.  
Leominster Hardware Co., Leominster.  
L. C. Hall, Lowell.  
Howard & Morrow, Pittsfield.  
C. F. Paige & Co., Athol.  
F. E. Mole, Adams.  
W. A. Dunham, Ashley Falls.  
E. S. Ellis, East Longmeadow.  
J. A. Brewer, Great Barrington.  
Sunderland Onion and Fertilizer Co., South Deer-  
field, Sunderland, Whately and North Hatfield.

## Tamworth, the Bacon Breed.

This breed has been bred with care during the past sixty years without any infusions of foreign blood; consequently, the representatives of this breed are very uniform as to color and type. The color should be a cherry red or a dark chestnut, and very uniform in shade throughout, without any black spots in skin or patches of hair other than the color indicated. The form should show the type that is desired for bacon production; this means a hog that is exceedingly light in offal, with a long, trim body, and especially very smoothly covered with firm flesh, indicating a desirable mixture of fat and flesh.

The head should be slim, the snout fine and not unduly long, the ear of appropriate size for the head, with the neck sharp between the ears and light, swelling easily to cover a deep shoulder smoothly. Depth of shoulder is desirable, but without any roughness. The shoulder should not bulge out beyond the body or the hips, for this detracts from the general appearance of trimness and smoothness which is so very desirable. The back should be long and strong, with a gradually rising arch over the shoulder to the loin, and then a corresponding descending line from there to the end of the tail. Width of the back is not demanded, but extreme smoothness and an even covering of firm flesh is absolutely essential. The ribs should drop as deep as possible, making the body appear from the side as if it had abundance of depth. The loin is even in width, with the shoulder and back well covered. The hind quarter lacks the width characteristic of the large hog, as this should not be any wider than the parts which precede it. Length of ham or gammon is a peculiar feature which should be looked for. A long ham, fleshed firmly towards the hook without folds of fat, is eminently desired. The leading features of the type throughout are length and depth, with trimness and smoothness in all regions.

## Harvard's President.

The celebration of President Eliot's seventieth birthday recalls to mind the fact that he has been since 1899 at the head of Harvard University. And what wonderful changes have come in thirty-five years under his wise and far-seeing administration of affairs. When he entered upon the duties of his high office, the four years course for the undergraduates was somewhat arbitrarily laid out, though there were some elective studies, and the curriculum was dominated with classicism.

## Horse Owners! Use COMBAULT'S Caustic Balsam

The most effective remedy ever used. Cures the most stubborn cases of mild or severe catarrh of the mouth, throat, and lungs. Burns out all parasites and cures all diseases of the throat and lungs. Every bottle sold is warranted to give satisfaction. Price \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by druggists, or sent by express, charges paid, with full directions for its use. Send for descriptive circular. THE LAWRENCE-WILLIAMS CO., Cleveland, O.



TAMWORTH SOW, CHOLDERTON FAVOURITE.

First at the Royal Show near London, England, 1903. This is the Great Bacon Breed.

Little attention was paid to science, and the medical school and the law school were feeble reflections of other institutions abroad, and were as likely to turn out dunces as good, professional scholars. If a man had great natural ability, and was of a studious disposition, he came out of them unharmed, though he might have learned as much from his books at home. The instruction he received was of a comparatively useless character, and he found himself surrounded by students who were groping in the dark, as it were, for the knowledge that was not readily at hand. These schools have risen under President Eliot's rule into positions of marked efficiency and sterling worth, simply because the requirements for entrance were steadily advanced, the courses extended, and stricter examinations were prescribed before diplomas were bestowed.

In the study of science and history great strides forward have been made under President Eliot, and originality of thought developed in every department mainly through the method of instruction by lectures, instead of a close clinging to the old recitation system, which killed individuality and ambition. The divinity school ceased to be the teacher of any particular creed, and became an example of religious tolerance worthy of the country which proclaims liberty to all ethical systems of religion.

President Eliot's reforms have attracted universal and approving attention from other institutions of learning, and have received the truest flattery in wide-spread imitation. The elective system owes its great growth to President Eliot, who has been the steady advocate of this reform in all universities, colleges and high schools. He has been, too, the tried and true friend of the preparatory schools, for by raising the standard of admission to Harvard, he has made them more efficient, thus benefiting those who might not have the means or the opportunity to take a college course. He may have made mistakes, but he is a vigilant and honest reformer. He has the

courage of his convictions, and he combines the executive and educational ability in a rare degree. He is a many-sided man, one who seems to have been born for his position. May he live many years to lend his influence and his good counsel to the advancement of learning!

## THE PROLIFIC SCALE.

The total number of descendants from one individual of the San Jose scale during the time between the middle of June and the last of November has been calculated at 3,216,000,400. As all these millions obtain their food by sucking the sap from the plant they are on, it is not to be wondered at that a tree which in the spring was apparently in good condition may be nearly or entirely dead by fall.

## PROFIT IN MEDICINAL PLANTS.

Many native plants, like bloodroot, poppy, lum, Solomon's seal, veratrum, etc., are collected extensively for medicinal purposes. In these cases it is the root that is taken, necessarily destroying the plant. All of these plants are easily cultivated and could be grown on a commercial scale for the supply of the trade. In fact, similar plants are now grown in Europe for this demand.

## BIG DEMAND FOR FROZEN RABBITS.

The rabbit pest of Australia is fast becoming an important source of income. Exports show considerable expansion. The figures are as follows: 2,838,112 pairs in 1900, 3,062,727 pairs in 1901, 3,274,210 pairs in 1902, 3,520,000 pairs in 1903. This industry has become an important one in Victoria. Over twenty million rabbits were utilized during the year for export purposes. Of these, 7,000,000 were exported frozen in the fur, and from ten million to twelve million skins were shipped and a large number of these animals canned and disposed of in Europe.

## A POPULAR PASTIME FOR EASTER SUNDAY.

Atlantic City at its best. Travel shoreward is steadily increasing as Easter approaches. It is estimated that no fewer than 30,000 visitors are housed in the hotels at Atlantic City, and preparations are being made for the accommodation of many more on that day. Just what particular feature or advantage Atlantic City may possess, that makes it so desirable as an early Spring resort, it is hard to determine, but the fact remains that its popularity

is increasing each year. It may be because of its accessibility or because of its hotel accommodations, graded to suit purse or social position, or perhaps it is because of both combined with the really delightful climate which prevails the whole year around. At present the winter's chill in the breakers has no terrors for a score of young men who have taken almost daily plunges in the surf. Somehow their appearance is associated with the belief that they are harbingers of warmer weather and brighter skies, to which the preparations for the Easter festivities give confirmation.

The one way to reach Atlantic City is by the popular 3-hour route, or in other words the New Jersey Central Trains leave New York from foot of Liberty street at 9.40 A. M. and 3.40 P. M.; all are vestibuled and have Buffet Pullman parlor cars attached.

## HOTELS AND SUMMER BOARDING HOUSES.

Information for Boston & Albany List. The Boston & Albany Railroad list of hotels and summer boarding houses for the season of 1904 is now in course of preparation. This list will embrace all the hotels and summer boarding houses along its lines in the Berkshire Hill and other districts where summer boarders are accommodated, not only at its immediate stations, but also at points reached by stage, electric and private conveyances.

In order that the list may be made as complete as possible, and that correct information may be given to those seeking summer homes, hotels, summer boarding and farm houses, proprietors and managers desiring summer boarders, who have not already furnished proper information, are requested to address A. S. Hamilton, General Passenger Agent, Boston, Mass., for blank form on which to give the desired information. No charge is made for representation in this list, it being included and distributed for the mutual benefit of all concerned.

## The U. S. Dept. of Agriculture

Gives to Salzer's Oats its heartiest endorsement. Free and the last of November has been calculated at 3,216,000,400. As all these millions obtain their food by sucking the sap from the plant they are on, it is not to be wondered at that a tree which in the spring was apparently in good condition may be nearly or entirely dead by fall.

Now such yields pay, and you can have them, Mr. Farmer, in 1904. Send 10c in stamps and this notice to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., and you will get their big catalog and lots of farm seed samples free. F. P.

## PAGE NOB FENCES

hold the whole lotter BECAUSE they are woven closer at the bottom. Write for descriptions. PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Michigan.

Lot of beautiful Angora Kittens in exquisite colors charming disposition and very stylish. Send 10c for picture illustrating. WALTER BROWN FARM, Box 114, Boston, Mass.

## J. C. KEITH

1000 Main St., Brockton, Mass.

Auction and Commission Dealer in

Horses, Mules and Ponies and manufacturer of Carriages, Wagons, Harness and Horse Goods of every description.

Auction Sales every Friday at 10 a. m.

PRIVATE SALES DAILY.

We carry a stock of single and double dump carts, farm and team wagons, and the largest stock of harness of any concern in New England and sell at the lowest prices. Low down and regular and spring horse-drawn milk wagons. All correspondence cheerfully and promptly answered.

## ACCOMMODATIONS WANTED.

HUSBAND AND WIFE require board and accommodation on Farm from June, 1904, with every facility to enable them to acquire practical knowledge in farming. Location desired near some State Experiment Station. Address with full particulars, ANGLIO-INDIAN, Care P. O. Box 1955, Boston, Mass.

## FOR SALE

Bay mare, 7 years, 16 hands, sound and smooth, wears nothing but harness, very steady, loves company; with very little work passed 5 miles from 2:15 to 2:45 in one afternoon. Will take promising stud stall as part payment. Any one wanting something cheap and cheap looking need not apply. J. W. LEGGETT, Jacksonville, Ill.

Queen Quality Herd of Registered Bredreds. We are offering well-bred early spring hogs, choice pigs ready to breed, June pigs of good blood and breeding. Also some very fine August pigs, either early or late. Everything with good color, good bone, length and strictly Queen Quality. IRA E. JORDAN, Palestine, Ill.

Walnut Grove Herd of Poland-Chinas. Pigs for sale at reasonable prices, sired by Ramsey's L. & W. Perfection, J's Big Chief, L. & W. Perfection, Top Chief, Best and out of sows that have been producing winners. J. M. RAMSEY, Mt. Carmel, Wabash Co., Ill.

Duroc-Jersey Pigs. March and April farrow, both sexes, unrelated. G. C. MCCUTCHEN, Canton, Ill.



## A Clever Rig

Attracts considerable attention, especially if everything is in keeping. A harness, a cart, whip, driver, and all must be quite like the grooming and attention shown to the horse. A horse to be lively, well and attractive must be properly fed. Glossiness will nourish his skin and produce soft, silky hair. Perfectly harmless. Article of unquestionable value. Found in the best stables. Printed matter if you want it. Price \$2. delivered.

W. S. FARMS CO., BOSTON, MASS. General Distributors.